

EIGHTH SERIES *of* HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, 1906

BLOCKADE
of
QUEBEC IN 1775=1776
by the
AMERICAN REVOLUTIONISTS
(LES BASTONNAIS)

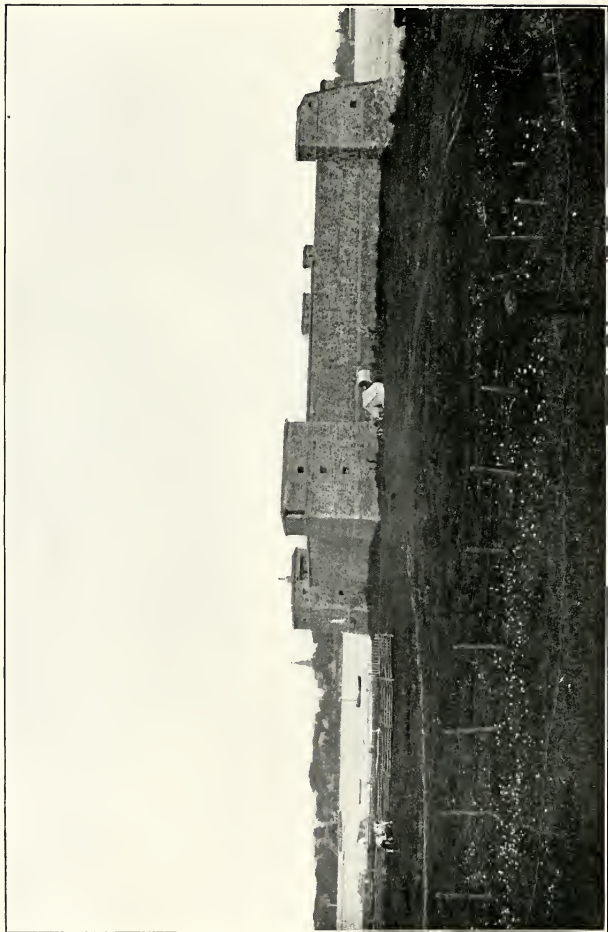
PUBLISHED BY THE
LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF QUEBEC

AND EDITED BY
FRED C. WÜRTELE, LIBRARIAN



QUÉBEC
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH JOB PRINTING HOUSE

1906



FORT CHAMBLY
1897

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FOREWORD

This volume, the "Eighth Series of Historical Documents," is a continuation of the previous one concerning the Blockade of Quebec by the American Revolutionists in 1775-76, and contains other unpublished or out of print diaries of officers present in Quebec during that period.

The first, entitled "Journal of the Siege from 1st December 1775," is an unpublished diary kindly communicated to the Society for publication by W. Lane, Esq., Librarian of Harvard University. It forms part of the Sparks' collection in the University library, and as the diarist appears to have been occupied chiefly in the batteries, his journal, to be distinguished from others, is named that of the Artillery Officer. Besides corroborating the other journals, it gives information not included in them, and proves that the defenders of the *Près-de-ville* barricade on the morning of the 31st December were not demoralized, as some writers assert, but were alert and did their duty; so that when this Artillery Officer, who had been sent there with a strong reinforcement, arrived on the scene he found that the enemy had been repulsed by the heavy cannon and musketry fire of the guard which had killed eight or ten of the attackers. He at once sent a message to the general, reporting the circumstances, and asked for orders,

which directed him at once to hurry with his detachment to the Sault-au-Matelot. If he had found that guard demoralized he could not have reported all correct and satisfactory. On arriving at Saut-au-Matelot this officer directed the fire of the guns so that their fire soon demoralized the attackers of that barricade.

The next diary is entitled:—"Journal of the principal occurrences during the siege of Quebec by the American Revolutionists under Generals Montgomery and Arnold in 1775-76," etc.—edited by W. T. Short, and published in London in 1824. This diary was kindly lent by Dr. Doughty, C.M.G.—Dominion Archivist, and as it has been long out of print is here reproduced, but omitting the editor's notes and comments.

Colonel MacLean's letter to Mr. John Coffin is reproduced from a paper sent by his grandson, Lt.-Col. W. H. Coffin, of Ottawa, to Dr. Anderson, who read it before the Society, and it was printed in Transaction No. 10, N.S. This letter shows how Colonel MacLean appreciated John Coffin's services in the Près-de-ville barricade, and formed one of a number of old documents belonging to the Coffin family, relating to that period. Dr. Doughty also sent the Society the report of Colonel Daniel Claus, one of the Indian superintendents, which reveals the attitude of the Indians, besides relating some occurrences happening between Montreal and the frontier during the invasion.

The Halsted-Mercier papers, comprising twenty-five original manuscripts, concerning two Quebec citizens

of 1775, were presented to the Literary and Historical Society by its Honorary President, Dr. James Douglas. The five most important documents are herewith transcribed at length, and the remaining twenty simply noted in their order of sequence.

It appears that John Dyer Mercier and John Halsted, two citizens of Quebec, purchased in the year 1774 a water lot on the River St. Lawrence, under Cape Diamond at Quebec, some distance above the King's Wharf, from Magdelaine Domptail, widow of Hubert Lacroix. On this they constructed a wharf 130 feet long, and in the fall of 1775 put up the frame work of a strong warehouse 128ft. x 40ft.—three stories high. The invasion of the Bostonnais stopped the work of construction by the hurried flight of Messrs. Mercier and Halsted who were Rebels. The former seems to have been a particularly trusted friend of Arnold, who sent him a letter on the 10th October from Dead River by the hands of an Indian named Aeneas, informing Mercier (misspelt Manir) of his coming with 2000 men to attack Quebec, and requested him to forward provisions and supplies to the Chaudière river. Fortunately this letter was delivered to Lieut. Governor Cramahé, and was the first notice received in Quebec of an invasion via the Kennebec. This probably accelerated Mercier's exit from Quebec, if Cramahé's proclamation of 13th September had not already done it. However, nothing more was heard of Mercier until the end of the war, when he petitioned the Governor through his agent Deschenaux for the return of his property.

Halsted was, among other things, in the employ of Major Caldwell at his flour mill, situated at Point Levis near Etchemin at the mouth of the Rivière la Scie. Caldwell says in his letter to Gen. Murray: "On the 8th November they (Arnold's column) got to Point Levy when they took post, as also at my mill. The fellow whom I had employed to put the mill in order, and who was to have had a share in the profits of it, turned out a great scoundrel, put me to great expense, and has proved to be in the rebel interest. He contrived to detain some of my flour, and two hundred bushels of my wheat, which was at the mill, for the rebels' use; he afterwards was appointed their commissary of provisions, and acted in that position till the blockade was raised on the 6th May, 1776. (2nd Series Historical Documents of L. & H. Society.)

Nothing was heard of these two rebels until 1784, when they jointly laid claim to their property, as contained in these manuscripts, demanding from the Government rent for its use since they abandoned it; also compensation for the frame work of the store which Carleton had used for construction of batteries, etc., behind the Hotel Dieu, St. John's and St. Louis Gates. Besides, the Government had built a provision store on the foundations of the former frame work.

Although their letters and their agent Deschenaux's petitions lay unanswered, they pertinaciously hammered away for eleven years; when, soon after invoking the aid of the United States Government by a letter from Philadelphia on 3rd June, 1797, to the Secretary of

State, Col. Pickering, Halsted returned to Quebec to push his claims. They found that the Government would not recede from its position, and finally had to accept the appointment of a valuation committee; who, before acting, caused Halsted, and Mercier by his agents, to give a joint bond for £1,000, to be a guarantee of good faith that they would abide by the decision of the committee. The award, instead of the £1,200 demanded; allowed them 13 years rent, making £855,16,8 from which was deducted the value of the provision store, with the repairs and improvements to the whole property, amounting to £767. This left a balance in their favor of £88.16.8, and the property as it stood on the 4th October, 1797. For six years after its abandonment the wharf, etc., was left to go to ruin until repaired by the Government. Col. Caldwell's opinion of Halsted was verified, for in spite of the bond, Halsted wrote on 6th Oct., trying to get the committee to revise their decision.

With these MSS. the story ends, and from it an instructive comparison may be drawn between the manner in which the Revolutionists treated the U.E. Loyalists and the treatment of those two rebels, who, instead of having their property confiscated, had it returned to them by the British Government, with 13 years rent for its use.

In the 7th Series, published last year, the publication of the roster of Colonel Caldwell's regiment of British Militia that assisted in the defence of Quebec was

promised but it has not been discovered, although diligent search has been made, so probably it is not extant.

This, the eighth series, is brought to a close with a list of original documents relating to the invasion of Canada, as far as could be collected from different sources, and in most instances it is stated where they are to be found.

F. C. WURTELE,
Hon. Librarian.

JOURNAL

— OF THE —

SIEGE FROM 1st DEC., 1775

(The name of this diary as distinguishing it from others, is—
“The Journal of the Artillery Officer, because his
duties seemed to be chiefly in the Batteries
and on the Ramparts.)

FROM THE MANUSCRIPTS OF GEORGE CHALMERS. BOUGHT BY
JARED SPARKS IN LONDON, IN 1848.

COPIED FROM THE MANUSCRIPT IN THE SPARKS COLLECTION
IN HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY.

Journal of the siege from 1st Dec. 1775

DECR. 5

Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—about 12 o’Clock at night 2 Men were observed creeping towards the upper Angle next the River; the Centinel fired—turned out the Guard & manned the Lines—eight of the Enemy returned the fire, on which a Platoon was fired & they went off—Moderate weather.

6 This morning a large body of the Enemy appeared on different parts of the heights of Abraham—Two Men went thro the fields towards the River & Cape Diamond—I caused fire several small Cannon at them; on their return they sheltered themselves behind the Ruins of Mount pleasant, fired two more Guns, which made them retire—Moderate weather—in the afternoon Snow—a great body of the Enemy lodged in St. Roc—

7

8

9 Early this morning great Bodys of the Enemy were seen about the General Hospital & Minow’s their Guards advanced near to St. Roc—in the afternoon took possession of the greatest Part of the Village, & mounted three different Guards there. Keaped a constant fireing on them from the two Barbett Guns near the Barracks—in the afternoon two Centrys were posted by them so near as Mr. Grants house only two hundred Yards from the Ramparts—about 8 at night they fired on our Centrys in the Angles & at 12 they threw into town from behind Mr. Grants house, 28 Shells from a Bomb battery they had erected there—No damage done by the Shells—The Gar-

rison employed in mounting Guns, repairing the Works, & raising two blockhouses.

- 10 Mounted Pallace Gate Guard—The morning by day light a work raised by the Enemy appeared on the front of the hill in the road St. Foy near the bark Windmill—All this day the Garrison kept a continual fire on this work from two 32 P: & one 12 pr.—in the afternoon sett fire to part of St. Johns Suburbs, would have burnt the whole, but was forbid by Genl. Carleton—One of our best 32 Pr. still useless by the houses & Chimneys which remain standing—At night the Enemy threw in 45 Shells from the same battery—when I found this, I Caused fire the Angle gun a 12 pr. almost the whole of the night at that house & Battery—Moderate weather—
- 11 The Enemys work at the Windmill much advanced—A heavy Rain from 4 in the Morning till 10—the Wind came to N: W & froze hard with Snow—One of my Guard went to the General hospital with two Ladys—he was carried before Mr. Montgomery & examined; his being very young & seemingly ignorant, he was suffered to return; was again taken & carried back to Mr. Montgomery at Minows house, from whence he made his escape & returned to his Guard—he gave a distinct Account of what Mr. Montgomery asked him, & of the guards he passed, particularly that the Rebels had five Guards in St. Roc, one of wh. only 150yds from the Ramparts—This night threw into town from the same battery about 40 Shells—No damage done—I Reported the necessity of destroying these houses wh. harboured the Enemy so near our Works—No notice taken of it.
- 12 Hard frost—The Enemys Works much in forwardness, this night they compleated five Ambrosures—at 6 o’Clock the Garrison began to fire on them from two 32 Prs & two 12 Prs—in the Afternoon a man was killed by a musket ball

on the Angle next St. Roc which I reported Yesterday would be the case, if John Bells house & the one next to it were not removed or destroyed; As no notice was taken of it, this will probably very often happen—Three Shells were thrown into town this night—mounted another 32 pr.

- 13 A fine moderate day—mounted another Howitser have now 2 Howitsers & two 32 prs. constantly playing on their entrenchments—in the Afternoon killed two of the Rebels in St. Johns Suburbs with grape Shott, & two more at St. Roc with small Arms—The Enemy gott into the Cou-pula of the Palace & fired on the Barbatt battery at the Barracks, on which we turned a 12 pr. to it, & sent one shott which dispersed them—The covering St. Roc suburbs affoards the rebels will if Not destroyed, surely lose the town—had these & the St. Johns Suburbs been burnt as was proposed to the General long ago, the Rebels could have no shelter from the severity of the weather nearer than two Miles, which would have totally prevented at least retarded their operations—a deserter of the Emigrants went off—
- 14 A Moderate day with a little Snow—Played on the trenches all day without intermission—The Enemy seemed to move their Works more towards the heights, so that the Cavalier Battery could bear upon them—A constant fire of small Arms from the Suburbs of St. Roc & St. Johns—betwixt 8 & 11 o Clock this night, 25 Shells were thrown into town from the same Bomb Battery behind Mr. Grants house; a shocking instance of suffering the Suburbs of St. Roc to remain undestroyed; had they been burnt no Enemy without the shelter they have affoarded could have withstood the severity of the season—
- 15 Moderate weather Wind N: E:—This morning at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o Clock the Enemy opened a three Gun Battery of 12 Pounders & began to fire on

the town—at 9 One of their Guns burst, & the Battery totally silenced—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—In the afternoon open'd it again, & continued firing till Evening; they also threw a great many Shells, but did no mischief save wounding three Boys—We kept a continued fire on them the whole day from the Cavalier Battery & those at St. Johns Gate—In the Evening we threw several Shells.

- 16 Moderate weather, Wind W N: W:; This morning we threw a number of 13 Inch Shells into their trenches, & kept an unremitting fire upon them till Evening—In the Afternoon they fired again at the town brisker than before—St. Roc full of the Enemy—We beat down the Cupula of the Palace, as from thence they picked off our Sentries on the Ramparts—Two Men & a boy wounded this Evening from St. Roc—
- 17 Very thick Snow, Wind E:—About 4 in the morning some of our Sentries from Palace Gate fired on the Enemy, as some attempt was expected to be made before the severity of the Season sett in, the Alarm Bell was rung & the Drum beat to Arms on which the whole Garrison repaired to their Alarm Posts & stood under Arms till day light—The Enemy made no attempt so we were dismissed—Continued Snow—nothing Extraordinary happened in the day nor night.
- 18 Still continued to Snow—Wind N W: & moderate—every thing quiet—afternoon the Rebels threw some shells into town which did no damage—A Soldier of the Emigrants wounded mortally in the head by a Musket ball in the same Angle the former was killed—Nothing particular during the night—continues a small Snow—Threw several 13 pr. Shells into St. Roc—
- 19 Moderate, Wind S: W:—The Enemys Works totally demolished—the only attempt they now make is to pick off some of our Sentries, which they have frequently tryed but without the Suc-

cess expected—Sent some Shott thro' some of the houses they fired from—The Garisson employed in mounting more Guns, & repairing the Ramparts—during the night We threw a great number of Shells into St. Roc.

- 20 Mounted Palace Gate Guard—Still moderate wt. small Snow; Wind W: N: W: turned extreemly cold, & froze very hard—threw some Carcasses into St. Roc & sett two houses on fire which burn'd down—A few of the Enemy appeared at St. Johns Gate & fired some small Arms, but did no mischief—in the afternoon a Girl from Lorette with a letter for Madam D'Auniere & two others, I sent them to the Governor who ordered her to be let in—
- 21 Extreeme Cold—Wind N: W:—The Girl returned & was by the Govrs. Order let out again—While in the Guard room She told me that most of the Canadians who came from Montreal Volunteers with the Rebels were deserting, & that Mr. Montgomery in all probability would his whole troops in a few days—A boy also went out to see his Mother at St. Roc beyond Mr. Grants, & returned without seeing a Man—
- 22 Unless some small Arms fired from St. Roc, nothing else happened in the course of this day—Wind N: W: & hard frost—Understood the Rebels had made 700 Ladders—The Girl returned which I let out Yesterday morning—
- 23 A Deserter & a prisoner made their escape from the Rebels & came to town—They acquainted the Governor with the Enemys intention to scale the Walls as too night; for which purpose they had provided 700 ladders at Point Levy & sent them over to Wolfs cove—in consequence of this intelligence three nine pounders were added to the flanks of each Bastion & loaded with Grape & canister shott—One of Colonel Macleans Men shott on the Angle where the former was shott from St. Roc—half of all the troops in Garrison

are ordered for Piquet too night—& we sitt up at the Recolletts—Nothing happen'd in the course of the night—Patrols going constantly—

- 24 Another deserter came in—A black from St. Roc also told Mr Coffin, that the Enemy intended to attack Us this night by the Lower town—A reconetring Party of six of the Rebels passing by the Canoterie to the Sous des Matelot, was fired on from the Blockhouse & had one Man killed—The Block house at Cape Diamond compleated half the Garrison sitt up at the Recolletts as usual, where the General was—No disturbance happened in the night—A few Shells thrown into St. Roc.
- 25 Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—Wind N W & very cold—The Garrison sitt up as usual at the Recolletts, but no disturbance happened—An unlucky affair happened this afternoon by one of the Men of my Company shotting a Serjeant of the Emigrants—Mounted the Lizards Guns on our flanks—
- 26 Very Cold & clear, Wind N: W:—Every thing quiet—& continued so all the day & night—threw a few Shells into St. Roc—
- 27 Cloudy & more moderate—Wind W; N: W: with Snow—in the afternoon clear weather & frost—Threw a few Shells into St. Roc & St. Johns Sub-urbs—All quiet—
- 28 Fine moderate weather, Wind W: & clear—All quiet—
- 29 Fine moderate weather—Wind W: & clear—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—This night the Enemy threw into town from their Old battery in St. Roc about 40 Shells which did no harm—We sent a few large Shells in return—A deserter came in by the Pickets at the Sally Port—he mention'd Mr. Montgomerys having assembled his Men to storm the town on Wednesday last, but as the night he said was not favourable he

would delay the attack till a dark night—that the Men from the Old Country were beginning to fall off & would desert to us if they could be assured of a pardon—

- 30 Fine Weather—& clear—towards Noon some fogg & frost—Wind E: afternoon drifty & some snow—hard Gale & thick small Snow very dark & drifty—
- 31 Still thick weather & drifty—Wind E:—Mr. Montgomery as he promised the first dark Night, made an attempt on the Town—About 5 o Clock this Morning the Drum beat to Arms, the Militia assembled at the usual place the Recollets—by $\frac{1}{2}$ after 5 the Enemy had forced the Guard at the Sou de Matlot took the Officer & guard prisoners; then they proceeded to the next Barrier at the Entrance of the Lower town where our Pickets stoped their Carrier—At the same time they made an attack on the Pret Ville near Drummonds Wharf on the opposite End of the Lower town, & also shewed themselves at Cape Diamond, Port St. Lewis, Port St. Johns, & Palace Gate—As soon as the Commanding Officer was made acquainted, he detached me with my Company & what Volunteers joined to the Pret Ville. On my way down I was told the Rebels were in possession of all the Lower town, Yet I proceeded to where I was ordered & on my arrival at the Guard I found they had fired all the Cannon & with their small Arms had killed eight & wounded two of the Rebels; the two wounded crawled to our Guard & were taken in—As soon as I found this part of the town in perfect Security, I sent a Corporal to Col. McLean to let him know there was no further use for me there, & desired his Commands; the Corporal returned & told me I must go to the Sou de Matlot, & support the party there as the Enemy were then in possession of that part of the town, the Guard & Picquet; I marched as quick as possible & in my way was joined by

about Sixty Men Volunteers—I took possession of the Entrance of the Street next Mr. *Lymburners*, drew up my Men there, & sent a numbr into his house & Mr. Vialars's with orders to keep a constant firing on the Enemy; when they found they could not force the Barrier they took to the houses and fired from the Windows where they killed I think about 7 of our Men & wounded severals—in the meantime I ordered the Port hole of the Gun facing the Sou de Matlot to be enlarged & fired it at the house where most seemed to be; soon after some of my people called to them to surrender In the meantime I found that they were like to carry the Barrier & force their way into the Lower Town, on which I sent Mr. Monro to the Govr. to acquaint him & to desire He would annoy them from the upper town or send a party out & we would take them all prisoners; before Mr. Monro reached him a Party went out under Capt. Laws the Engineer, & Major Cox detached Capt. Nairn of the Emigrants with 30 Men to support me & Col. Maclean also sent Capt. Macdougall with 30 more to assist the Officer whose Post was forced—The Governor also sent to acquaint me that a party was gone out at Palace Gate to intercept the Enemys retreat, whenever they found that those in the rear next Palace Gate laid down their Arms, & those who had forced their way to the Barrier in the Lower Town, finding our Cannon could bear on them, called out also to surrender, were all made prisoners excepted about 20 Men who run over the Ice—I then went out & took possession of the Barrier Gate, & received the Prisoners as sent to me whom I ordered to be conducted to the Main Guard—I think about 360 were taken & about 100 killed & wounded, among them were about 32 Officers—Another Party was sent out at Palace Gate to St. Roc where they took eight Cohorns, & one field Six Pounder mounted on a Slay, & sett fire to the whole of the Suburds the

Palace not excepted to the great joy of the whole town, as the Enemy now has not shelter nearer than the General Hospital—A glorious day for us, & as compleat a little victory as ever was gained—Nothing extraordinary during the night

JAN. 1, 1776

Thick weather with Snow, Wind E.; Early this morning the Slain found without the Walls were brought in, & among them was the body of Mr. Montgomery & his Aid de Camp Mr. Macpherson together with his orderly Serjeant & two other attendants who were all killed at the Pret Ville—Several more deserters came in & among them an Officer—Kept a constant fire all night on the Guard Houses of the Enemy that are in the further houses of St. Roc still standing—All quiet otherways—

- 2 Moderate & cloudy Weather—Wind W:—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—We threw a few Shells into St. Roc—every thing else quiet—Small Snow in the night
- 3 Very moderate & clear Wind W:—Nothing remarkable during the whole of the day
- 4 Moderate & Cloudy—Wind S: W: & thaws—Sent out & brought into town a great quantity of fire wood from the Canotrie—
- 5 Moderate & Cloudy Wind S: W: & thaws—heard some small Arms at St. Foye which we judged to be the Rebels burying some of their Men who died of their wounds—Gott in more fire-wood—Several of the Rebel Officers were innoculate for the small Pox—Many of the private Men took them in the natural way
- 6 Moderate & Clear—Wind W: N: W: & frost—Nothing extraordinary
- 7 Very fine weather—Wind W:—This day Col: Maclean enlisted 89 of the Prisoners, all from

Britain or Ireland—several Americans offered, but they were refused—three Canadian prisoners taken, going into Mr. Grants Cellar at St. Roc—

- 8 Cloudy weather & Snow—Wind E:S:E:—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—Turned clear & had a very good guarded—All quiet—
- 9 Cloudy & thick Weather—Wind E:—great Snow & drift—blows hard—Went out & took some firewood from St. Johns Suburbs—Yesterday Old General Worcester (a half pay Captain in the army) joined the Rebels at St. Foye & took the Command—All quiet—
- 10 Clear weather & frost—Wind W: N: W:—Employed in clearing the drift Snow from the Ramparts without—& the Guns on the ramparts—All quiet—Several of the Prisoners fell ill of the small Pox
- 11 Thick Weather & Snow—Wind E: S: E: & drifts hard—fetched in some Wood from St. Roc—All quiet—Sent some Recolletts over to Point Levy with 4 Canadians prisoners who were sett at liberty
- 12 Clear Weather—Wind W: N: W: blows fresh—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—Nothing extraordinary—
- 13 Cloudy & thick Weather with small Snow—Wind N: W: & blows hard wt. drift Snow—A large Party went out & brought in a quantity of firewood from St. Roc—On fireing some of our Cannon to clear the houses, the Rebels flocked in from the Country & formed a great body at the General Hospital, where they threw up an entrenchment in case of our making a Salley—
- 14 Fine clear Weather wt. hard frost—Wind W: N: W: & moderate—Nothing extraordinary—
- 15 Cloudy thick weather. Wind E: & blows fresh—drifted very much & was extreemly bleak—

Several of the Rebel Officers & private Men died of their Wounds—All quiet—

- 16 Fine Clear Weather—Wind W—& moderate—Sent out & fetched into town the Records left in the Vaults of the Intendants Palace—Mounted two 8 Inch Howetsers on the Barbett raised at the Angle next St. Roc—
- 17 Thick Weather with great fall of Snow—Wind E:—blows fresh & drifts—Mounted Palace Gate Guard—All quiet—
- 18 Fine Clear weather—Wind W: & moderate—Sent out to St. Roc & took in a quantity of firewood & hay—fired a Royal Salute for the Queens birth day—The Enemys advanced Guard within 100 Yds. of our advanced Sentinels; but no Shott fired—
- 19 Fine clear Weather—Wind W: N: W: & moderate—Cleared the Snow from the Ramparts & Guns—The Rebels burnt the house at St. Roc where the hay was taken out off—
- 20 Cloudy moderate weather wt. a little Snow—Wind N: W: & cold another party on fatigue to clear the Snow from the Ramparts—The Rebels burnt 9 houses at St. Roc wt. hay & Wood—Three of the Prisoners enlisted wt. Col: Maclane, deserted
- 21 Fine moderate weather & clear—Wind W:—sent out & gott in fifty Cords of firewood, whi. was divided among the Inhabitants—In the Evening the Rebels burnt four more houses—& a new Schooner the property of Jos. Pappillion
- 22 Cloudy weather & blows fresh the Wind at E: & drifts hard—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—Nothing extraordinary—
- 23 Fine moderate weather, Wind S: W: & warm—sent out a party with one field piece to cover the Slays bringing in wood,—Went within about 100 yds. of the Rebels Guard room—did not exchange a shott—

- 24 Moderate & Cloudy weather Wind S: W: & Snow—the Enemy burnt about 20 houses at St. Roc—& this day they were observed to go about in Carioles in great Numbers from the General hospital to Beauport & Lorrette—Sent out a party of 50 Men wt. Capt. Laws to lay at St. Roc in expectation the Rebels would sett fire to more of the Vessels—
- 25 Moderate & clear Weather—Wind W: N: W:—The Enemy burnt 4 more houses at St. Roc—about 10 o’Clock the Gate was opened & we brought in near 40 Cords of Wood—Our party that covered went so near the Rebels guard room that they sent for a reinforcement of 50 Men which was detached from the General Hospital We fired several Guns at both their Guard room, & their party on their march—They burnt Six more houses—
- 26 Cloudy weather & bleak—Wind E but moderate—afternoon blew fresh & drifted—All quiet—
- 27 Clear weather & cold—Wind N: W:—Mounted Palace Gate Guard—A Party went out & brought in quantitys of the Wood remaining in the burnt houses with all the Boards, fences &c fitt for firewood they could gett—All quiet—very cold—
- 28 Clear cold weather—Wind W:—very cold—
- 29 Clear cold weather—Wind W:—it is worth remarking that this morning about 5 o’Clock when the field Officer of the day was going his Rounds, he hailed a Sentry who had not challenged him & was very angry for the Sentrys negligence God bliss Your Honor, replied the Sentry, I am glad you are come for I am blind—On the Officers examining him he found the Mans Eyes had watered with the severity of the cold & that his eye lids were froze together—his face was tender he durst not rubb them, & the Officer was obliged to carry him to the guard to be thawed—
- 30 Clear cold weather—Wind W:—& little of it, but

very cold—overcast about 12 oClock Wind: E: & blows fresh—The Rebels burnt six large houses at St. Roc—

- 31 Moderate & cloudy weather—Wind S: S: E wt. a litle Snow—A Party went out to bring in firewood for the Prisoners at the Recolletts—The Rebels burnt most of what remained of St. Roc—

FEBY. 1

Cloudy weather & Moderate—Wind S:—mounted Cape Diamond Guard—about twelve Yankeys appeared on the heights this forenoon walking on Snow shoes—No shott were fired at them—

- 2 Clear weather & cold—Wind N: W:—sent out a party at Palace Gate to bring in wood for the Prisoners—All quiet—
- 3 Clear Cold weather—Wind N: W:—sent out a party at Palace Gate to bring in more wood—exchanged a few Shott with the Rebels, but no accident happened—
- 4 Clear cold weather—Wind W:—Nothing extraordinary
- 5 Clear cold weather—Wind N: W: blows hard to drifts—Three more of the prisoners deserted & those prisoners that are recovered from the small Pox returned to the Recolletts—
- 6 Cloudy clear weather—Wind N: N: W: & blows fresh—Mounted Palace Gate Guard—The Rebels sett fire to two houses in the Suburbs of St. Johns; fired several Canon at them—which prevented them burning more—
- 7 Cloudy cold weather—Wind N: W: & drifts—nothing extraordinary
- 8 Fine clear moderate weather—Wind S: W:—a party went out to bring Wood from St. Roc—this forenoon severals of the Enemy appeared

at their battery. We fired some Shott at them—Two Men attempting to come from the Island of Orleans were intercepted by the Enemy & carryed to Beauport Church—A party of eight Men from us was sent to assist them, but the distance was too great to reach them in time.

Christie born at $\frac{1}{2}$ after 7 oClock.

The Rebels appearing this forenoon having given the Govr. reason to suspect they had some view of burning St. Johns suburbs a picquet of 60 Men was sent out to prevent them; the Rebels shewed themselves in a great body but did not advance beyond their battery—& the party returned about midnight—

- 9 Cloudy blustery weather—Wind E & blows hard wt. small snow—a great drift all the morning which continued the whole of the day, & all night blew a gale of Wind that the Patrols could not go, & two Men were lost attempting to go—
- 10 A Very hard gale & drifts severely—Wind E: almost impossible to gett along the streets—both our doors blown up with Snow—nothing happened extraordinary, save being the greatest fall of Snow this season
- 11 Fine clear weather—Wind W: N: W: Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—this morning an Officer of the Rebels came to the Angle next St. Roc & called to the Sentry that he had letters for the Governor & desired to deliver them—Col: Maclane was made acquainted therewith who immediately came down & told the Person, no letters could be received from him nor any Rebel & desired him to retire—The Officer went off seemingly much disappointed—As the Snow was lavell with the Ramparts at Cape Diamond a party was sent to clear it—
- 12 Fine clear weather—Wind N: W: & blows fresh—All the Men in the garrison off duty are ordered on fatigue to clear the Ramparts of

Snow—two more of the prisoners who inlisted deserted—A flag of truce was coming in, but a Gun happening to be fired at their Guard house, made the flag return—

- 13 • Clear cold weather—Wind N: W: & moderate—a great piece of Ice went away from the mouth St. Charles's River—three more of the prisoners went away on guard—the Garrison ordered on fatigue to shovel Snow—
- 14 Fine clear weather & moderate—Wind W—the garrison ordered on fatigue to shovel snow—this Evening the Rebels burnt six more houses in the suburbs of St. Johns—fired several Cannon at them—All the garrison dissatisfied that the firewood from these suburbs is not taken into town—
- 15 Cloudy weather—Wind E:—& blows bleak with some snow—the Rebels appeared at their battery—in the Evening they fired one shott into town & sent a party into the suburbs of St. Johns to sett fire to more houses—a large fire seen over at Point Levy, & answered by a Sky racket from the General Hospital—about 10 oClock three of the New inlisted Prisoners knocked down the Sentry behind the barracks, leaped over the Wall & deserted—& in an hour after a parcel of dry fagotts & some combustables was fixed under the Stern of the Patroclus Schooner & fire sett to it; but the Sentinels from the Garrison observing the light, fired some small arms at it & the fellows run off without accomplishing their purpose—
- 16 Fine clear weather—Wind S: W: & moderate—Mounted Pallace Gate Guard—This day the rest of the Prisoners who had enlisted in our Service, were disarmed & again sent back to prison—they declared they could not complain since several of their companions who had gone off were such as any person would have trusted—they were allowed to keep their Cloaths, are to

have all their pay, even while they served the Rebels, & are to be sent to Britain or where they please by the first Vessel in the Spring—This day renewed our Volunteer Picquet, by which two thirds or more are on duty daily & never put off their Cloaths—The Garrison well satisfied & in good Spirits—A few Guns fired & the Rebels Guard house & some Slays passing to & from thence—gott in some large timber for making platforms—

- 17 Cold clear weather—Wind N: N: W:—& blows fresh—the Volunteer picket mett as ordered—All quiet—No French attended the picket this evening—
- 18 Fine clear weather—Wind W: & moderate—this evening the Rebels sett fire to the Suburbs of St. Johns, & burnt down the greatest part of them all quiet otherways—No french attended the picket—Cleared the Snow from the Ramparts
- 19 Fine moderate clear weather—Wind W: N: W:—the suburbs of St. Johns still burning—All the flanker Guns in the garrison were scaled too day—Some shott fired at the Rebels when they came out to look at the Garrison while scaling
- 20 Fine clear weather—Wind S W & moderate—all quiet
- 21 Cloudy moderate weather—Wind S: S: W:—mounted Cape Diamond Guard—In the morning Port St. Johns was opened & a Picquet of 50 Men & a Captain took post at the furthestmost house of the Suburbs, after which all the slays in town were employed to bring the firewood in which was saved from the Ruins—A number of the poor profite the oportunity to gett a supply, & the Governor to secure it sent out a field Officer & 100 Men to remain there for the night—The Rebels fired one Gun in the course of the day, which the garrison soon silenced—The Officers prisoners were rather become troublesome by

tampering with the Sentries & some other indiscretions for which they were given to understand they would be otherways secured if they did not desist—A hole was also cutt in the door of their room & the Sentry ordered to look it every few minutes—

- 22 Clear weather, but bleak—Wind E: S: E:—& blows fresh—The picquet at St. Johns Suburbs were not disturbed in the course of the night—the greatest number & variety of Northern lights parhaps ever seen appear'd about 4 in the morning—Gott in a great quantity of firewood during the day not a single person was seen at the Enemys battery or guard house tho our Sentries were up within 300yds. of them—
- 23 Cloudy cold weather—Wind N: W:—but moderate—the whole garrison out, to gett in firewood—An odd medley to see the manner it is brought in—The Enemy have not appeared all the day—severals of our people asked to up & take their battery, but were forbid by the Governors orders—This Evening a 'deserter came in, One of the reinforcement which came from Montreal—he gave us a good dale of intelligence but the most material was “that the Assault made the 31 of Xer last was known on the Continent & at Montreal; also that Govr. Tryon had assembled near 3000 Men & had taken post at Jamaica on Long Island, which will probably prevent any reinforcements coming to the Rebels in this Country—
- 24 Moderate clear weather—Wind W:—nothing extraordinary—
- 25 Cloudy cool weather—Wind E: S: E:—The Enemy fired five Shott from a Gun behind the heights & out of sight of the Garrison—three of the shott fell short of the Ramparts & two came into the town—the metal seemed to be elevated as they were not point blank—Gott in some wood

for the Sailors & Soldiers from St. Johns suburbs—All quiet otherways—

- 26 Fine moderate weather, Wind S: S: E: & warm—Mounted Palace gate guard—The Rebels appeared in bodies in different parts of the heights, & single persons seemed to reconneiture about Cape Diamond—A Party of 50 of them with their Arms & Napsaks were seen going up the River from Point Levy to cross over—besides the ordinary guard & Picquets, there was a Volunteer picquet of 500 Men to night at the Caserns near Cape Diamond—All the Guns in the flanks were scaled & new load wt. grape & cannister shott—
- 27 Very fine weather—Wind S: W: & thaws—the Rebels continue to appear in bodies on the heights & near their battery—fired several large Guns at them—All otherways quiet—
- 28 Moderate weather & heazy—Wind S: W: & thaws—A Canadian came in about 4 oClock this morning from Sorrel—he brought us accounts of General Amhersts arrival at New York with ten thousand troops—that the 100 Slays sent over to Crown Point to bring a reinforcement to the Rebels had returned wt. only 150 Men—That a plott was laid to retake Montreal but that it was discovered & two french Gentlemen principally concerned in it were siezed & sent to Hartford—that the Canadians were beginning to be alarmed, & had thoughts of disarming all the Rebels & bringing them to town prisoners—That the Rebels themselves were in great distress & had hinted their intentions to go off, but that they could not leave their sick behind, & were affraid that the Country people would assemble & destroy them on their march—a very extraordinary reverse of fortune—
- 29 Cloudy weather—Wind N: W:—blows fresh & freezes—all quiet—The Men off duty employed in clearing the Ramparts of Snow—

MARCH 1

Clear Weather & cold—Wind W:—all quiet—placed two Sentries without the Walls over Cape Diamond—

- 2 Cloudy weather with snow—Wind N: W: & cold mounted Cape Diamond Guard—continued the Sentry as. Yesterday without—Observed the Enemy at Beauport in motion & a number of Carioles & Slays to towards the General Hospital—It is suspected they design to make another attack as the Canadians who credited their promises find themselves deceived—which gives us reason to conjecture that they would move off, but are affraid the Country people so misled, would make reprisals—The Volunteer picquet mount now by Orders
- 3 Fine clear weather, Wind W: & moderate—three Men from the Emigrants deserted—Mounted the Volunteer picquet—All quiet otherways—
- 4 Fine clear weather—Wind W: & moderate—fired some Guns at some of the Rebels seen lurking among the bushes on the heights—thaws a little—A Shott was fired from the Enemy, but it did not reach the Town—All quiet otherways
- 5 Cloudy bleak weather—Wind N: E: & freezes a little—This morning the Rebels hoisted a red flag at the ferry Guard house, supposed to be in commemoration of the attempt made by the mob at Boston on the Custom house, when five of the Rioters were killed by the troops—in the Evening hail & blew very hard
- 6 Rainy disagreeable weather with Sleet—Wind E: S: E: blows very hard—the streets very slippery—All quiet—
- 7 Clear cold weather—Wind N: W:—Mounted Palace Gate guard—The garrison employed in clearing snow from the Ramparts—Got up a

look out 30 feet high at Cape Diamond which overlooks all the Country—All quiet—

8 Moderate & cloudy weather—Wind W: S: W: & rather bleak—The Rebels came to Ance de Mer under Cape Diamond & took away some plank, but a party of our Men being sent out, they went off on being fired on—All otherways well—About 9 at night a firing was heard on the Ice towards the Church of Beauport, & in half an hour two french Inhabitants came to the Sout aux Matelott guard, they were taken in, & immediately carried to the General—

9 Thick snowy weather but moderate—Wind W: N: W:—in the morning the Inhabitants were given to understand that the french Men brought favourable News—Particularly a letter from Govr. Tryon to General Carleton informing of the divided state of the Colonies & that great numbers were declaring for the King—inclosing also duplicates of Genl. Woosters Letters to General Washington with an account of the defeat at Quebec & desiring a reinforcement, together with his answer which was not satisfactory—also that the reinforcement which came over the Lakes finding themselves disappointed by Quebec not being taken, that they mutinied, & part returned to St. Johns, & others laid down their arms, & difference arising they fired on each other by which severals were wounded & some killed—likewise that they were preparing again to attack this town, for which purpose they were making fasheens, & hauling boards & Plank towards Wolfs cove in order to lay them ready behind the heights—The General in consequence has given orders to have every thing in readiness, & after the 14, every man in the Garrison is to sitt up all night & be together in bodies in different house near the Ramparts—We have also mounted several more Guns in the flanks, & some large Cannon in the Curtains—a party

employed in cutting a ditch thro the Ice from Lymburner wharf to Low Water mark—

- 10 Clear cold weather—Wind N: W & sharp—A party of the Rebels concealed in the ruins of a house under Cape Diamond fired on two Canoes which went for firewood—the fatiguing Party continue cutting the ditch thro' the Ice—about 10 at night one of the Sentry placed without the Ramparts at Cape Diamond observed a party of the Enemy creeping towards him from the Ance de Mer, he immediately called to the other Sentry posted close to him to see if he could not discover them, which he soon did, on which they retired a little, but before they reached the Sally Port, the Sentry from the Upper Angle called out; On hearing his voice the Enemy separated into small bodies, the town was instantly alarmed by ringing the great bell, & beating to Arms—the Enemy finding us prepared went off without firing a shot—
- 11 Fine clear weather—Wind W: S: W: & moderate—all quiet—about 7 in the Evening tried some of fireworks to light the Ditch—
- 12 Thick snowy weather—Wind S: E: but moderate—mounted Cape Diamond Guard—All the Garrison employed in shoveling Snow—This Evening a Sailor was caught deserting, & was tried—several of the Rebels wer seen reconneituring at Cape Diamond, & wer fired on by the Sentries—All quiet—The British Militia reviewed by the General—
- 13 Fine clear weather—Wind W: N: W: & frosty—All the Garrison employed in shoveling snow—about 10 o'Clock forenoon a party of 12 Seamen were sent out at Cape Diamond to see what the Rebels were doing at the Ance de Mer; On their appearance the Enemy fired on them & then run off; but some of our Men getting within reach of ye rear of them, fired & killed three men & wounded one who took shelter behind

one of the Shalloops which lay ashore there—the Rebels left behind them their Axes, Adges, some caulking tools, a parcel of their cloathing & some Arms—None of our party were hurt—The Rebel Prisoners were this day moved to the Recolletts Jail—a singular saying of a Sailors to one of them is worth noticing—the Prisoner asked the Sailor why they were moved: Why, replied the Sailor, to make room for more prisoners, as we are going to make another haul in a few days—

- 14 Thick snowy weather—Wind S: E: & moderate—all quiet—The French Militia reviewed by the General—About 3 o’Clock afternoon a flag of truce came to the Angle next St. Roc, desiring to leave letters for the General; they were asked if they came to implore the Kings Mercy—on answering the Negative, they were told they could be treated with on no other footing—On which they retired—
- 15 Fine clear weather—Wind W: S: W: & thaws—very moderate & warm gott over two Bat-teaus from Palace Gate to the Cul de Sac—About Noon another flag of truce appeared coming towards the town, even nearer than their advanced Posts; but some person from their Guard was seen to run after & stop them, on which they returned—This Evening two In-habitants came from the Island of Orleans in a Canoe—The whole Garrison (except such as are for Duty next day) were under Arms all night & are to continue to be together in three different houses to be ready on a minutes warn-ing till further orders—the whole to ly down in their cloaths if they go to rest—
- 16 Thick cloudy weather—Wind S: E:—with sleet, snow & rain—All the Garrison under Arms from 2 in the morning till day light—Nothing new—The snow goes fast away—
- 17 Clear weather & moderate—Wind W:—Mount-

ed Palace Gate guard—As this was St. Patricks day, it was expected the Rebels would attack the town in hopes that a great number of the Garrison would be drunk; & what confirmed us in our opinion was the junction of a great number of the Enemy at their ordinary rendezvous about a Mile from town—Greatly to the Credite of the Irish, not a man was seen the least in liquor in the garrison—All the Guns in the upper & lower town were scaled & reloaded with Grape & Canister shott—Passed a very quiet Guard—

- 18 Fine clear weather & warm—Wind S: W:—early this morning the Rebels were seen in bodies retiring to their cantonments again—A Party of our Men went out to examine at some hundred Yards from the Ramparts, & found the tracts of the Enemy on the Snow from Cape Diamond down to Palace Gate—repaired two batteaus ready for launching; one is to carry a six pounder & the other a three pounder brass Guns—The two Inhabitants returned to the Island of Orleans perfectly satisfied, having their pockets full of New Dollars for the Provisions they sold—All quiet, & passed an agreeable picquet—
- 19 A heavy Snow—the Wind E:, but moderate—several partys of the Rebels were seen going from Holland house to Wolfs cove, & two of their Sentries appeared on the heights most of the day—in the afternoon a batteau was seen cross from the Cove to the other side & on it's arrival a Gin was sett up on the Ice but whether to put any thing on board or take any thing on shore we could not distinguish In the Evening the two armed Batteaus were sent up to examine the River side but returned without having seen any thing—
- 20 Thick cloudy weather with snow—Wind E: but moderate—this morning a few of the Rebels

were seen in the suburbs of St. Johns, on which the Picquets turned out, but they did not come near the Ramparts—Nothing extraordinary in the course of the day—& a quiet Picquet all night

- 21 Clear cold weather—Wind N: N: W: with frost—
—all quiet—
- 22 Cloudy weather—Wind W: S: W: & moderate—
—mounted Cape Diamond Guard—at 10 o’Clock
Wind came round to E: S: E: & blew fresh—
All this day the Enemy were seen at work on
their batteries at Point Levy, a new work raised
on the right of that battery formerly made by
Genl. Monkton—Our Guns from the Grand & the
9 Gun batterys together with the four 13 Inch
Mortars played on them most of the day—In the
Evening, Snow & a great drift—
- 23 Thick weather with a great drift of Snow—
Wind E: S: E: & blows fresh—Fired several
Shott at the Rebels over the River—they con-
tinue to work at their battery—the appearance
of the Night gave us reason to expect the Enemy
would make an attack, if they had any such de-
sign, for which reason all the Garrison were
under Arms from three to six o’Clock in the
morning—at which time they were dismissed all
being quiet—
- 24 Cloudy bleak weather—Wind N: N: W & cold
—The Rebels were seen at their battery at
Point Levy but not working—No alarm either in
the day or night—
- 25 Clear cold weather—Wind N: W: & freezes
hard—This morning some Sky rackets were
thrown as false signals—& a 13 Inch shell sent
over to Point Levy, which seem’d to disconcert
the Enemy much, as most of them left their bat-
tery & run up into the Village—Fired several
more Shells, & some 32 Pounders from the
Grand Battery in the afternoon—

- 26 Clear moderate weather—Wind W: but cold—All the garrison not on duty, employed in shovelling snow—Fired several Shells at the battery over at Point Levy—In the afternoon a body of about 200 of the Enemy were seen parading in the Village—
- 27 Clear cold weather—Wind N: N: W: & hard frost—mounted Palace gate guard—in the afternoon several bodies of the Rebels were seen going from the General Hospital to Beauport, one of them consisted of 95 Men—They burnt the Seminarys country house there—in the evening three partys of about 25 each were seen to come to their guard house at St. Roc—I sent to acquaint the Governor of this—Passed a quiet guard—
- 28 Clear cold weather—Wind N: W: & freezes—the Armed Batteaus went up to the Ance de Mer, but returned without seeing any thing—
- 29 Clear moderate weather—Wind W: & thaws a little—hard frost in the afternoon & the Wind N:—kept a continual fire on the enemys battery from the 9 Gun & grand Batteries of 32 & 42 Pounders & the three 13 Inch Mortars till dark—All quiet in the night—
- 30 Moderate clear weather—Wind S:E:—& raw—a deserter came into town by Palace Gate, but was so drunk, he could tell nothing; he was sent to sleep & examine before the Governor next day—St. Johns Gate was open'd to gett in fire wood—several of the Rebel Sentries came near the Ramparts, & several Guns fired at them but did no mischief—
- 31 Fine clear weather, Wind N: W:—In the morning the Officer of the Prisoners guard sent to acquaint the Governor that he heard a noise of Axes, hammars, &c in the prisoners apartments—Colonel Maclean went to inquire into the affair, & found they were attempting to break

out, & had actually gott two hinges off one of ye doors, & were possessed of three pickaxes & a number of spare keys; as the Colonel was reporting this to the General, the Barrack Master went to visite their bedding, firewood, &c, when one of the Prisoners requested to go out & speak with him; he there discovered a plott formed by the prisoners to seize their guard & gett possession of their Arms, then to proceed to St. Johns gate which is near to them, force the guard & gett also possession of them & the Gate, which as soon as they were, the Cannon on that part of the Ramparts were to be turned on the town, fire was to be sett to the houses in the neighborhood & some huzzas given which was to be the signal for the Rebels to advance, & while the garrison was employed in extinguishing the fire, the gate way was to be open'd, & the Enemy let in—To accomplish this, they chose Officers among themselves & had found means to gett one of the prisoners out; who by some means was concealed in town for three nights unceill St. Johns Gate was open'd to get in firewood Yesterday then he escaped among the croud, & this circumstance was made known to those in Prison that very evening; this man was to let Mr. Arnold know their intentions & to be prepared—A few of the prisoners objected to this desperate attempt, but they were compelled to take a part, or be put to death, for which purpose they had gott privately sent to them, four pistoles & some ammonition—This discovery he made to the Governor on being examined—To profite of this opportunity the Governor ordered the whole Garrison under Arms at 2 o'Clock in the morning & to sitt up at their different picquet rooms for the night, & caused erect two Wooden Piles to which fire was to be sett, & to make the remainder of the signals as if the prisoners really had made the attempt, & this was intended to draw the enemy

to assist them, which if they had come to, the matter in dispute must soon have been decided—But the plott did not take, Yet it had a very good effect for they knew not what to make of the Manuvre—The number of Men on the Ramparts surprised me, for I did not know there were so many in the garrison—All were in great spirits, & if the Rebels had come, the greatest part of them must have been cutt off—Two hundred of the prisoners were put in Irons this evening & the remainder will be, so soon as Irons can be made for them—Fired a great many shott at their Battery at Point Levy—

APRIL 1

Fine clear weather—Wind E: S: E: mounted Cape Diamond Guard—A deserter came in to town who was just arrived, he acquainted the Govenor of Genl. Woosters arrival from Montreal, & that the Rebels had gott a reinforcement of about 300 Men all new recruits, but that the greatest part of them were left sick between this & three Rivers—The Enemys General came to reconneiture the works this afternoon—keeps a constant fire on the batterys at Point Levy—

2 Fine moderate weather—Wind W: S: W: & thaws a little—several of the Enemy appeared on the heights to reconneiture the works of the town—continued to fire on their Works at Point Levy—And gott up a block house without the ramparts at Cape Diamond—All the garrison in great spirits—

3 Cloudy moderate weather—Wind S: E: & thaws—This morning the Rebels open'd their battery & began fireing on the town—We open'd the three new mounted 42 Pounders on the Grand battery & with the five 32 Pounders on the Calabogus battery keep a continual fire on them

since morning—toward Noon it began to rain hard, & continued till night, when it foggy and thick & fireing ceased on both sides—

- 4 Cloudy weather with small Rain—Wind W:—the Rebels began firing from their Guns & also threw some shells into town, one of which 8 Inches diameter fell in the Lower Town but did not break—A continual fire was kept on them from our two batterys most of the day—For some days past several Sentries of the Enemy have been seen on the heights behind the town—
- 5 Clear weather with hard frost—Wind N: N: W: & blows fresh—The Rebels about day light saluted us with some more Shott, & also some Shells, one of which broke in the Air & a small piece wounded the Hunters Carpenter in the Cheek—but did no other damage—we kept up a brisk fire most of the day—The Enemy remained silent till Evening when they fired three Shott more—In the night they burnt all the small Vessels at the Ance de Mer—
- 6 Cloudy weather—Wind E: S: E: & moderate—mounted Palace Gate guard—Early in the morning Our two batterys began to play on the Rebels at Point Levy—A deserter & a french Man from Montreal came into town—they gave us intelligence of the Enemys intentions of opening two batterys, one on the heights ag'n Cape Diamond and the other at the ferry house of St. Charles river ag'n Palace Gate—Also that two frenchmen from Montreal were discovered & taken at Point Levy with letters from New York to Genl. Carleton, but the letters were destroyed—Further that the parish of South River had rose under their Priest Monsr. Baiee to the number of 50 Men & had marched towards Point Levy in order to take the Rebel party there & bring them to town, but they were discovered & surprised by a large body of the Rebels at Beaumont, five were killed, the Priest

dangerously wounded & fourteen of them taken prisoners—the Rebels had six men killed & several wounded; after this affair a Party was sent to apprehend all the Curates of the Lower parishes on both sides of the River—they also mentioned the great sickness which rages amongst them, near one third being down either of the small Pox or fevers; the general backwardness among the private men to make another attempt on the town, & a total want of Shoes, stockings & almost every other sort of cloathing The Rebels burnt all

- 7 Cloudy bleak weather with some hail & snow—Wind E: N: E: & very cold—Our batterys fired some shott at the Rebels on their battery at point Levy—in the forenoon they returned a few shott & threw some shells into town but did no damage—All otherways very quiet—
- 8 Cloudy moderate weather—Wind S: E: & thaws—the Rebels began firing this morning at day light—& most of their shott fell into town without effect—our batterys played some time on them both forenoon & afternoon—but when we ceased firing they sent three shott just in the Evening, one of which came over the Bishops Palace, lighted in the street, & rebounded; after which it went into the end window of Mr. J. Melvills house & killed his eldest Son, a child of 7 Years old, warming himself at the stove by his mothers knee—finished the Block house near Cape Diamond—
- 9 Cloudy weather—Wind S: E: & thaws—the streets running with water & the Snow so soft both within the Walls & without that it is with difficulty we can walk—about Noon a deserter that has the appearance of an officer, came in to town at St. Lewis Gate, he was immediately carried to the General—He confirms what was said by the other deserters, & no more—We fired a good number of Shott at their battery; they only returned a few—which did no damage—

- 10 Moderate weather & foggy—Wind W:—mounted Palace Guard—This morning about day light a sailor who was taken in one of the Vessels last fall at Sorrel came down the River in a Canoe & landed at the Pret Ville guard—he was immediately sent to the Governor—he confirmed what all the former had said, with this addition that the Rebels were fitting out a fire ship to come down & burn the Vessels in the Cul de Sac—In the afternoon we fired several Shott at the ferry house on St. Charles's River, where the Enemy are raising some new Works on the Old Ramparts of the Ridoubt made by the French in 1759—
- 11 Cloudy weather with some rain—Wind E: & blows fresh—employed in making Platforms for mounting four 24 Pounders near the Hotel Dieu to play on the Enemy works at the ferry house—Nothing extraordinary in the course of the day—
- 12 Cloudy weather with Snow—Wind S: E:—employed in getting up the block house at Port Lewis—The Rebels fired several Shott in the morning, & also about 2 o'Clock afternoon at the Shipping which damaged some houses but did no other harm We fired a good dale at them—The fire balls at every Angle on the Walls were lighted this night, & we threw several Sky Rackets—
- 13 Cloudy weather with frost—Wind W: N: W:—The Rebels fired as usual at the Shipping, but we returned none—the Warrant officers & six hands lodge on board the Frigate—the Hunter & the Fell—the Picquet in the lower town ordered to meet at Mr. Harrisons Store, where three 6 Pounders are mounted for the protection of the Shipping—A guard boat is for the future ordered to row round the Wharfs, & a guard is kept on the Kings Wharf—In the afternoon the Enemy fired some more shott at the

Vessels on which our officers on the Batterys who were waiting for this kept an unremitting fire on them for three hours, during which time the Rebels fired only ten Shott, one of which hitt the Hunter Sloop but did no other damage— They have been observed working on a new work behind the heights of Abraham all this day—Several of the Prisoners who for their bad behaviour were put in Irons, found means to undo the Rivetts & put in leaden Ones, & as there is great reason to suspect the Enemy have much dependance on the assistance they were to afford them within the Walls, they are now more strictly watched, & kept closer than formerly—The snow goes fast away, & the River considerably clear of Ice—

- 14 Fine moderate weather—Wind W: & clear—mounted Palace Gate guard—this morning by day light the Rebels fired a good many shott at the Shipping, but most of them fell short—in the afternoon they fired more & damaged some of the Vessels—We kept them amused from the grand battery, & the Calobagus battery—In the mean time the Enemys battery on the heights opposite St. Lewis's Gate advances fast—We now & then fired some shott at them—As we were given to understand by the Deserters that the New York troops were disgusted with their late bad treatment, & that they intended to leave the Rebel Army too Morrow the 15 to which time they were inlisted by Mr. Montgomery We expected an attack this night, for which purposes every necessary step was taken for their reception; fire balls were hung over the Walls—Sky Rackets were thrown—& the Picquets under Arms as well as the guards all night, but to the great mortification of the whole Garrison not a Man appeared—The Ice on the River goes fast away; As does the Snow in so much that the Ramparts are almost clear—I passed a very quiet Guard—

- 15 Fine clear weather—Wind W: & very moderate—Early this morning we began firing on the Ferry battery; As we also did at Point Levy, & the Works on the heights—The Rebels threw many shott into town & damaged the Shipping much—They are hurrying on the Battery on the heights, & we are as much employed in bringing Guns to bear on it, as well as mounting new ones—The Enemys Guard at the General Hospital was heard give three Cheers this morning; the cause is uncertain—Firing as usual from both sides—this afternoon the two Grasehoppers & a short Six pounder were brought to the parade mounted to be ready on an emergency—And one of the Vessels taken last fall by the Rebels broke loose from Carrouge & went past the town, which so much alarmed their party below, that signals often repeated were made from the heights of Abraham & from Point Levy to the party at Orleans—All quiet during the night—
- 16 Cloudy dull weather—Wind E: N: E: & is very bleak—We began firing first this morning which was returned by the battery at Point Levy—but they only fired one Shott & not another since—In the afternoon several different partys of them were seen marching up the River towards the Mill with the Napsacks on their backs & some Canoes were seen cross the River at Sillery full of Men which makes us conjecture Colonel Clintons Regt. of New Yorkers have not enlisted again—The Evening dark & stormy but no Alarm—The Irons taken off Capt. Morgans Company of Virginians—
- 17 Cloudy weather but moderate—Wind W:& thaws—the snow which fell last night goes fast away—No Shott from the Rebels battery at Point Levy—Nor is that on the heights in any more forwardness—towards evening the Enemy fired some shott from Point Levy but did no damage—Our batterys returned them—

- 18 Cloudy heazy weather with some snows—Wind W: N: W: & moderate—mounted Palace Gate guard—The Rebels began firing by day light, & both our batteries have kept an unremitting fire on them since At 10 oClock Palace Gate was opened for the Inhabitants to gett firewood & continued till 3 afternoon—About 4 oClock two deserters came in at St. Johns Gate, they were immediately carried to the General—the principal information they gave us was that the New York troops had laid down their Arms, & that those from Pensylvania & the Jerseys with some Canadians had surrounded them & made prisoners of them; on which some lifted their Arms again, called out *God Save King George* & fired upon the Magazine; this manuvre has obliged the Rebels to confine them in separate houses which has put the whole into great confusion & the reason the Yorkers give for this step, is, that they have been deceived & ill treated, having not received a shilling pay since the 1 Novr. last—they also mention the general discontent for want of cloathing & that the Canadians are dissatisfied because they are not paid in money either for their work or their supplies of provisions—They also mention their design to burn the Shipping & their intention to open the two new batteries soon—I passed a very quiet guard, & the Men in great Spirits—
- 19 Cloudy cold weather—Wind N: W: & freezes hard—the Rebels began firing again at day light—some damage done to the Masts & the rigging of the Ships—Our batteries as usual have kept a good fire on them, which they now & then returned—Sometimes a few shott were fired at the Ferry house of St. Charles's River, wh. retards their intended battery there—In the evening John Buchannan who was taken prisoner when the Shipping was given up at Sorrel made his escape with a French also a prisoner—he informs the General that ye deserter which came

in the 9 instant is a Spy—that he was one of Old Woosters principal confidants; that he had accepted of a Captains Commission three days before he came into town; & that it was rumored in the Rebel Camp that this said person (whose name is Chaucer) engaged to be back in three days & would bring with him a true state of the Garrison both of Men, Guns, Provisions, & Stores, And further that he would see Captain Lamb who had by some means or other contrived to send frequent intelligence to his friends without, & would fix with him on the properest & surest way to attack the town so as to succeed—these two Men are in course well secured—he also assures us that the New York troops are going off in small bodys without their Arms & that he saw first fourteen & then seven pass the house where he was, who told him the rest were allowed to follow in the same way—he also confirmed what the other deserters said that the Enemy were in want of both Money, Provisions & Cloathes & that the Inhabitants were much discontented with them—he further says that the Gaspey is made a fire Ship of, & that twenty thousand Livres had been offered to any person who would bring her down & sett her on fire; that an Accadian had offered to do it for thirty thousand, if paid in Money before—Nothing else material—

20 Cloudy bleak weather—Wind N: W: & blows fresh—Both began firing much about the same time this morning, but the Rebels fired more than usual—We kept a constant fire on the ferry guard house all day, it is now much shattered, & rather dangerous to stay in—it is supposed the Rebels will move their guard—their works on the heights come on slowly—Nothing material the remainder of the day & we passed a very quiet picquet—

21 Fine clear moderate weather—Wind W: & warm—The Rebels fired a few shott first this morn-

ing—We returned a great number—We also kept a constant fire on the ferry house & battery all the forenoon—Our new battery behind the Hotell Dieu comes on fast—in the afternoon we fired a great dale—they returned only a few shott—this evenings tide the Armed Vessel Providence was hauled out, & in the night the Ice cutt her Cable & She went adrift near to Sillery, where the Rebels fired at her with great Guns & small Arms, on the turn of the tide She was brought down again & is now at anchor off Drummonds Wharf—

22 Cloudy weather—the Wind E: & blows bleak—mounted Palace Gate guard—Early this morning We began firing as usual—the Rebels returned it, & one of their Shott wounded the Bow-sprit of the Lizard—They also opened their new battery at the ferry house, & fired a good many shott from it—at Noon the New guards hauled down two thirty two pounders from the Bishops Palace to the Hotell Dieu Battery, & in the Evening we fired them—At Night it snowed fast—The Rebels fired several Shott from their new Battery—About midnight three Canadians came in from Montreal, & brought us news of Arnolds leaving the Rebel Army in disgust; of the Canadians being disposed to take arms & of their discontent by being paid in paper money—that there is 1100 Men on their march under Genl. Thomas to assist the Rebels—All the Garrison under arms too night—

23 Cloudy weather with Snow—Wind S: E: & bleak—Began from the Hotel Dieu & two Gun battery to fire by daylight—We also threw some Shells, & our firing continued till 7 o'Clock—About this time the Rebels sent us five Shott, but three from us striking their battery they run away & left it about 8 o'Clock—Very little firing in the course of the day—towards evening the armed Schooner moved nearer the Cul de sac—About 10 at night, the Wind at W: N: W:

the Rebels threw two Shells from Ryals at Port St. Lewis one of which not bursting made us suspect it was a racket; the Pickets were turned out & all ready in case of an attack; Nothing happened—We passed a quiet night—

24 Cloudy weather & frost—Wind W: N: W: We began firing by day light this morning both at Point Levy & at the ferry batterys; they returned out, & opened another ambrosure at the ferry—The firing ceased till about 2 o'Clock when the Rebels began from both batterys on which we continued an unremitting fire till evening—Mounted two more 32 prs. behind the Hotel Dieu—

25 Fine pleasant Weather—Wind W: & moderate—The picquet employed as usual in hauling up Guns to the Ramparts—The Rebels began firing from both batterys about 7 o'Clock, on which all our Guns which bore on them were ordered to be fired, this soon silenced them—at Noon Wind, East—This afternoon three of the Prisoners who had inlisted in the Emigrants feigned sick to be sent to the hospital; they were accordingly sent, & in a few hours after they were overheard proposing a scheme to desert; a party was instantly sent to return them back to Jail, & they were put in Irons—Another of the same who had leave to be out to bake bread, had proposed to his fellow baker to murder the Maid Servant of the house when his Master & Mistress were asleep, then to take what money there was, to stab the Sentry behind the Hotel Dieu, then leap the Wall & desert—but his partner discovered his views & he was put in Irons—A smart cannonading on each side all the Evening—The Ice of the River St. Charles broke up this

26 A heavy rain with fog—Wind E: & very bleak—All silent in the forenoon—The flatts of the River St. Charles quite clear of Ice this tide—

In the afternoon a cannonading on each side, the Enemys shott did no damage—

- 27 Fine clear weather—Wind W : S : W :—mounted Cape Diamond guard—Early this morning We began firing, which the Rebels answered about 7 o’Clock—Towards Noon We exchanged several more Shott—the Snow going fast away—About 2 o’Clock a Captain of the Rebel prisoners, one Thayer a barber at Providence was detected in making his escape; he had cut round the wood work of the lock of the door which went up to the garret, & had nearly accomplished it by which the whole of the Officers would have gott to the garret, & as there was plenty of Ropes they would have let one another down out of the reach of our Officers Guard. when he was discovered by one of the Seminary Priests who immediately informed the Governor; An Officer was sent to visite the room & he found the knife in Thayers hand, who made no other excuse than that he wanted to see where the Rebels red flag was hoisted, since it was moved—This was the very thing the Governor wanted to keep from them; Thayer was therefore sent on board the Armed Schooner & ordered to be put in Irons every night—In the Evening one of my Sentries observed a large fire lighted at Point Levy, I sent directly to acquaint the Governor; he had previously been informed that it was the Enemys fireship coming down & had the great Bell to be rung & the Drum to beat to Arms, but tho it had that appearance to the people in Lower Town, We could observe it distinctly from Cape Diamond, & it turned out only a signal—the Rebels shortly after fired two Guns from Point Levy, this obliged me to have my guard under Arms for two hours, then I turned them in—We passed a quiet night—For the first time the whole Guards of the Garrison paraded on the grand parade & marched past the field Officer of the Day—

- 28 Fine clear moderate Weather—Wind N: W: & freezes—At day light the Enemy fired four Shott from Point Levy, one wounded the Fell Armed Snows, Trysail Mast, & the other one of the Transports Main Mast—We fired a good dale both from the Grand & Calabogus Batterys; As also from the Hotel Dieu battery at the ferry house—Except some Shott exchanged on each side, nothing material happened in the course of the day, save the sending of Capt. Thayer on board the Armed Vessel—
- 29 Very fine weather—Wind S: W: & warm—The Enemy fired some Shott from Point Levy; Our batteries immediately opened on them & fired for two hours—One of the Armed Sloops ordered to be fitted out—The partys of fatigue employed in repairing such of the places round the Garrison as are most easy of access—In the Evening the ferry Boat of St. Charles's River came a drift with two Canoes, & were taken up by one of our boats—the Rebels never offered to fire a Shott at our people—All quiet other-ways—
- 30 Cloudy weather & calm—thick fogg with small rain—No firing too day from the Rebels; & only a few Shott from us—A small party went out at Port St. Lewis so near the Enemys battery on the heights as to hear them speak; We knocked down the few Garden pickets still standing to prevent Our Sentries at the two block-houses being surprised from behind them in the night—This forenoon a discovery was made by the Soldiers of the Royal Fuzileers of one of their Men having accepted a bribe from the Rebel Officers to let them escape when he was Sentry—they informed their Officer, who immediately acquainted the Governor—The Man was examined & discovered the whole together with the Officers who gave him the money—Capts. Lockwood and Hanchett were instantly taken to the Main Guard & are since sent on

board the Armed Schooner—As the night appeared dark the Governor ordered all the Garrison to the different Picquets—Nothing happened—

MAY 1

A Snowy morning—Wind N: N: E: & cold—No firing from either side till Noon, when the Rebels fired some shott from the ferry battery which hurted some houses, & we returned them—in the afternoon when the day cleared they fired two Shott from Point Levy, one of them entered the Stern of the Fell Armed Ship & struck a boys leg in the Cabbin short off; also slightly wounded three men by splinters but none of any consequence—They also fired several Shott from the ferry battery—The night being clear & frosty nothing material happened—

2 Cloudy cold morning—Wind N: W: & freezes hard—mounted Palace Gate Guard—The Rebels fired all the morning & most of the forenoon from the ferry battery—Our two batteries also fired on them & several Shells were thrown—In the afternoon a few Shott were exchanged from Point Levy but no material accident happened—As it was a clear night & full Moon, I passed a quiet Guard—A Party went out & fetcht in several of the Enemys ladders from the heights

3 Clear morning with frost—Wind E:—A Canadian came over from Point Levy—he was by the Generals Orders carried round the Ramparts & in consequence of his repeatedly asking to be kept & not sent back, the General to comply with his desire put him in Irons as he had told many falseties & seemingly with an intention to intimidate the Garrison—Our suspicions proved true, for in the Evening about $\frac{1}{2}$ after 8 a brigantine appeared under sail coming directly for the Cul de Sac; the Garrison (not suspect-

ing any danger from below) apprehend'd She was from Europe & the cry passed thro' the town as such, but the people who had the conducting of this Vessel having chose a wrong time of tide & rather losing that spirit with which so dangerous an attempt should be supported, sett fire to the Vessel before She reached the Shipping about 300 yds. then quitted her; She immediately flew up in the Wind with her head off shore then the tide had the sole command of her & carried her down below the Shipping She instantly broke out in a prodigious smoak, followed by a great flame, on which all her rigging & sails caught fire & she affoard'd a very pritty prospect while she was floating down the River, every now & then sending up Sky rackets, firing Cannon or bursting of Shells, & so continued till She disappear'd in the Channel—In the mean time when the Garrison was undeceived, the great Bell was rung, the Drums beat too Arms, & in an instant the Ramparts were full of Men & every person at his place of rendezvous as we expected an attack; but as the fireship failed of Success, the Rebels remained quiet, & we passed the night in our usual tranquillity at the Picquets—The Enemy fired some shott from Point Levy during the Exhebition & we fired some at the boats when going off, as well as at the fireship—

4 Cloudy weather & small Rain—Winds S: W: & moderate—little firing on either side—Our people employed in laying platforms at the Windmill by St. Roc from which we can throw small Shells out of the Ryals into the trenches at the ferry—Nothing material passed the remainder of the day—

5 Cloudy cold weather—Wind N: with frost—The Armed Sloop hawled out of St. Charles river into the Stream—No firing from Point Levy & very few shott from the ferry—In the afternoon we opened the Ryal battery at St. Roc Windmill & threw several Shells into the trenches—A

New barrier making cross the Passage to Palace gate without, which will greatly strengthen it—
Wind W: N: W: & blows fresh—

- 6 Cloudy cold morning—Wind N: E: & blows a fine gale—About day light a Ship appeared below Point Levy—The Drums immediately beat to Arms & the Alarm bell rung, which in a few minutes brought the whole Garrison to the Grand Parade, save the Gunners who manned the different Batteries, as soon as She came in full view of the town We fired across her from the grand Battery; She instantly fired three Guns to Leeward & hoisted our Signal, then bore away & anchored before the town—it proved to be the Surprise Frigate, Capt. . . Lindsay, & shortly after the Merlin Sloop & Isis, Sr. C: Douglas, arrived—they brought part of the 29 Regt. & a few Marines who were landed directly, & so soon as the Men had eat a little & rested about an hour, all the Garrison were ordered under Arms to go out with the General to the plains of Abraham—the whole instantly gott ready, & four brass field Pieces, Six pounders were sent out with a covering party to take post on the heights, the General followed wt. these few troops. those of the Emigrants, all the British & French Melitia with the Artificers from Halifax making in all about 800 Men, & marched a quick pace till we gained the heights—There we formed, the few of the 29 Regt., the 50 Men of the Royal Fuzileers, & the Emigrants made the right wing; the British Melitia made the left; the Artificers, French Melitia & all the Marines made the Center; thus disposed we were order'd to advance a quick pace—The Enemy on our appearance abandoned their batteries & their Cannon & made off towards St. Foy & Lorette as fast as they could run, & in great confusion, they did not even make the least stand, only six Sentrysts discharged their pieces & run off, & in such a hurry were they, that they

threw away their Arms & their Coats, left behind all their stores, Ammunition & provisions & as we hear from the Inhabitants, never rested till they gott to Point aux Tremble 24 Miles from Quebec—In the mean time our little Army (if it can be called such) remained on the Plains till 4 oClock afternoon & sent to town their two Cannon & Howitzer, intended for the Batterie on the height, together with their Gin, all their Shells, Shott & Intrinching tools; & in the Evening sent a party to Holland house who took what Stores & Ammunition they found there, even Generals Thomas & Wosters dinner which was cooked for them, these two having made off on horse back some hours before, having told the Inhabitants that they received an Express from the Congress ordering them to Montreal to meet a strong reinforcement, then to return to Quebec & take it immediately—their troops were ordered to follow in the best manner they could, but the Generals would not stay to bring them with them—The Surprise Frigate saild up the River Thus ended the remarkable Winters siege of Quebec—

7 Cloudy weather but moderate—Wind N: E:—Mounted Cape Diamond Guard—Two large partys were sent to St. Foy, Sillery and Lorette, also to the Ferry at St. Charles's River—they sent into town 100 bbls. of flour, twenty bbls. of Powder . . . 24 Pounders brass Guns, a great quantity of Stores & took a good number of Prisoners, Also most of their scaling ladders, fasheens & every other useful article the Rebels left—in the Afternoon the Surprise took & sent down one of our Armed Schooners which the Rebels took last fall in the River—Our partys also sent to town a great dale of Stores & provisions from Sillery—

8 Cloudy weather.—Wind N: E:—A great many prisoners surrendered themselves & came to town—About 8 o'Clock a Ship came in sight &

soon after anchored before the town; it proved to be the Niger Frigate from Halifax with the 47 Regt. on board; & in less than an hour the Lord How India Man came up with the 29th Regiment—Barracks are preparing for their reception—No more Extra picquets are mounted & the Regulars took Palace Gate guard—The whole Garrison in great Spirits, & many inhabitants are come too town wth provisions—The accounts received of the Rebel Army are but very indifferent—Rains hard Wind S:W:

9 Cloudy weather & small rain—Wind W: & moderate—As the scene of Action is now removed from this, I close the journal—

JOURNAL
of
THE PRINCIPAL OCCURENCES
during
THE SIEGE OF QUEBEC
by
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONISTS
under
GENERALS MONTGOMERY and ARNOLD
IN 1775=76

Containing many anecdotes of interest never yet published—
Collected from the Old Manuscripts originally written by
an officer during the period of the gallant defence
made by SIR GUY CARLETON.

EDITED BY W. T. P. SHORT

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1824

Journal of the Principal Occurences during the Siege of Quebec by the Ame- rican Revolutionists under Generals Montgomery and Arnold in 1775-76

... DEC. 1775.

From the 1st to the 8th of this month our redoubted foe, General Montgomery, in conjunction with his colleague in arms, Colonel Arnold, and other officers in the rebel army, (who have lately figured as the principal chieftains of the insurgent forces, leagued together for our destruction,) prepared to besiege us in form; and after taking possession of the principal houses in the neighborhood of the town, employed all the inhabitants in the laborious task of cutting fascines, and opening lines of circumvallation; which account we learn from numerous deserters. On the 5th. of this month Montgomery, who it appears had taken possession of the parish of St. Croix, two miles from this City, at first posted himself there with some field artillery, having landed his heavy cannon at Cap Rouge, beyond the Heights of Abraham—Arnold's detachment taking possession in the interim of the Grande Allee from St. Louis' Gate, and the other principal avenues, so as to cut off all communication with the country. On the 7th, several letters addressed to the principal merchants, and written in an imperious strain, Came in, advising immediate submission, and promising manifold indulgence in case of their compliance with such an unreasonable demand. They were clandestinely introduced to the garrison by some perfidious female, who brought likewise an epistle to Genl. Guy Carleton, our Governor, written in very strange

terms, and demanding in peremptory language a surrender of the town; but he took no further notice of the insidious conduct of the rebels, beyond imprisoning the messenger for a short time, and then ordering her to be drummed out, as she deserved.

9th. Received information that the enemy were preparing to erect a heavy battery, on a spot situated on the heights, a little above the bark mill, at the end of St. John's Suburbs; all this day a constant fire of small arms was kept up from the village of St. Rocks, in which they have intrenched themselves, on the two-gun battery (*en barbette*) next the barracks, but did no execution. From a late hour this evening, till about three o'clock in the morning, they threw thirty-five shells into the garrison, from behind Mr. Grant's garden wall, (say *cohorns*) but none of them did any damage, although they burst in every direction. The upper town much alarmed at hearing the reports of these unexpected winged messengers, "portending hollow truce," from the hideous orifice of our adversaries' thunderers—

10th. This morning at daylight the enemy's battery, hitherto masked, of five cannon and a howitzer, (which seemingly consisted entirely of fascines, and had been hastily thrown up in the darkness of the preceding night, like the Bunker's Hill intrenchment), appeared on the face of the mill above-mentioned, about 700 yards from the walls, which was only exposed to the guns from St. John's Gate, and the fortifications downwards, from which quarters a constant fire of two twelve, and two twenty-four pounders, was kept up all day upon the insurgents, which annoyed them greatly, and is said to have done considerable execution among their working detachments. At noon a sallying party was sent out to destroy several large houses nigh St. John's Gate; but finding much difficulty in pulling them down, they were fired; a circumstance which, although the result of inevitable necessity, the governor afterwards disapproved of. After burning all night, and destroying about six houses more, the fire went out of itself. At one o'clock in the morning the enemy began

again to throw their shells from the same quarter, and in the space of three hours sent in the critical number 45, but did no damage whatever: (if they elevate their mortars to that range, they may indeed amuse themselves as they please, but do us very trifling injury:) in return we threw several into their battery and post at St. Rock's, which seemed to fall as directed.

11th. Busied all day in supplying the hospital with rugs, canvas, etc., for bedding—to provide for casualties, and ensure the safety of any who may suffer from the inclemency of the weather. In the afternoon a corporal of the Royal Emigrants was unfortunately killed on the two-gun battery, by a musket ball from St. Rocks. In the course of this evening, and till late in the morning, the enemy sent in thirty-five shells but like the others, these did little or no damage, so that their ill-omened attempts at reducing us by bombardment alone, appear completely ineffectual, and have not made the best impression on the body of our citizens.

12th. The garrison busied all day in bringing more guns to bear on the enemy's works:—mounted two 32-pounders and two ten-inch howitzers on the ramparts, which with the others keep up a constant fire of round and grape, and have made very good shots. The inhabitants of the town say that the militia and sailors murmur much at the governor's not allowing them to burn that hornet's nest, St. Rocks and St. John's Suburbs, and thereby drive the besiegers at once from the strong holds they possess.—Two Yankees killed by our marksmen, from the two-gun battery, with musket-shot.

13th. Nothing particular:—kept up a constant fire of shells and round shot on the enemy's works. Still annoyed from St. Rocks with small arms; the balls from which whistle round our fatigue parties on duty, who nevertheless are providing measures for soon returning them the compliment in a handsomer style.

14th. Preparing mortars and royals for throwing shells; all day kept up a constant fire from our different batteries on the enemy's works, having opened

the Cavalier Redoubt, consisting of two thirty-six, and two thirty-two pounders, besides a flanker from Cape Diamond, which are all directed so as materially to annoy the besiegers at their fortifications, and to sweep away all that appear from the ground within the range of their destructive influence.

15th. The enemy opened their battery upon us this morning at daylight, from which they continued to fire till nine o'clock, with the intention of making a practicable breach, when it suddenly ceased playing, either owing to their guns having bursted, or to the powder magazine or caissons having blown up: at half past ten o'clock they sent a flag of truce; but the governor, Sir Guy Carleton, would neither admit it, nor listen to their proposals. On receiving a message to this effect from the ramparts, they replied that the inhabitants were to blame, and that the Governor would answer the consequences, and then marched off towards the general hospital.

About two o'clock they again began their fire from the battery, which lasted till dark, without doing any material damage; at the same time, they threw in about twenty shells, and at night sent in about fifteen more, without any effect. Our batteries kept up a well-directed fire all day, which did a great deal of damage, and during the night as well as day threw a number of shells into their battery and St. Rocks. Employed in giving out materials to make 2000 sand-bags or gabions, to repair the embrasures.

16th. As soon as daylight appeared we reopened our battery on the enemy, the guns of which were played off incessantly till night, and seemed to annoy them very much, by a well-directed fire, conducted by Captain McKenzie of the Hunter sloop of war, and Captain Goseling of the merchant service, who acted as gunners. At half past two the enemy again opened their battery; but instead of five, they could only make use of three of their cannon, the largest of which were only twelve-pounders: however, they kept up a fire of shot and shells till dark, without doing any material damage except throwing down a few chimneys, and

one of their cohorns bursted in a house near St. John's Gate, which in some measure destroyed it, and wounded a little boy, but not dangerously. From the number of the Yankees visible about St. Rocks in the dark, and particularly in the Intendant's palace, we were suspicious of an attack in the night, and a heavy snow-storm which began to fall late, seemed to encourage their designs, and to increase our fears.

17th. Just as we supposed, it turned out; for about a quarter before five o'clock in the morning the alarm was given both by ringing of the town bells, and beating of drums; on which, to the great honor of the inhabitants, every one of them repaired to their alarm-posts immediately, where they waited for further orders: at the same time care was taken to support the weakest and most suspected places. After remaining some time under arms, we were informed that no real attack had been actually made, but that the number of the enemy descried approaching towards Palace Gate had increased in proportion to the fears of the sentry, who swore that he had seen thousands of them advancing towards his post; and so positive was he in his opinion (although the morning was very dark and gloomy), that he insisted they formed seven deep, and that there seemed no end to their line. In short, a few discharges of small arms was all that was heard; a circumstance rather singular than otherwise, ever since the enemy took possession of S. Rocks.

The governor appeared about seven o'clock, and after thanking the inhabitants for their alacrity, dismissed them. During the course of the day a heavy firing commenced from St. John's Suburbs, at the sentinels on the lines, which was soon silenced by a twenty-four pounder, loaded with case-shot. During the night a few shells were thrown in from them, and a number returned from our howitzers. Not a shot from their battery this day, nor is there a person to be seen in it: we have imagined it is abandoned, and considered untenable. The inhabitants of the suburbs were afterwards seen marching home with their spades and pick-axes on their shoulders: we supposed that they were tired of acting as pioneers, and of raising batteries,

which they have seen so soon destroyed by the galling fire of destructive missiles from our guns.

18th. Learnt this morning that some person in woman's clothing had been killed the evening before going towards Palace Gate, in the dusk. About noon one of the emigrants was wounded by a musket-ball from the enemy's marksmen in St. Rocks. In the evening the enemy threw into the town about twenty shells, but they all burst without doing us any damage. During the night many were thrown into St. Rocks by our gunners, some of which were thirteen-inch shells. A canoe from Point Levi came over to Lower Town in the course of the day, with four men: they were immediately conducted to the governor, who suspected they came over for no good purpose, (although they brought a little provision with them for sale) and ordered them immediately back under the escort to the water-side. It seems there is a party of about 50 of the enemy in that neighborhood, who, it appears, (if we can believe the rascals who have just embarked) prevent them from sending their provisions into town. But attend to the absurdity: a party of fifty rebels hinders a body of from 4 to 5,000 Canadians from doing as they please, showing them to be a set of traitorous, faithless, ungrateful villains.

Colonel McLean this day received a letter from some friend without, which is fraught with very agreeable information; such as that the besiegers are greatly dissatisfied with their general's proceedings, and that their body of men appears backward in doing the duty required of them; also that there is a great scarcity of gunpowder, as well as of cannon and musket-balls among them—intelligence which afforded us great satisfaction.

19th. Everything is quiet; busy in fortifying the town and mounting cannon; one of the emigrants deserted to our foes in the night over the wall of the Sally Port, while posted there on sentry: the enemy threw in a few shells without doing any damage. Threw a great many also from the garrison in return.

20th. This day several letters came into town,

which confirms what had been written to Colonel McLean, and also desire the governor to beware of the machination of some of the Captains of the militia; they can be no others than those of the French part of the population; a secret correspondence being kept up, it is said, through that channel, by which the enemy is made acquainted with everything that passes within the town. These accounts further mention, that among the rebel forces there are actually not more than 300 true-blooded Yankees, and 400 apostate Canadians from above, under arms, together with 300 of the inhabitants of this neighborhood, forced into their service; in all 1500 men, employed in the siege: but were they twice the number, we have now little to fear, the town being so well fortified. We are also informed that the enemy is retreating up the country, probably in consequence of the severity of the winter. This evening we threw a great many shells into St. Rocks, and fired it in two different places; but there being little or no wind, the conflagration ceased, and was completely extinguished in the morning, without doing great damage. It is confidently asserted, that the person disguised in woman's attire, mentioned as having been killed at St. Rocks, turned out to be the enemy's chief engineer in disguise, and that draughts of the suburbs were found in his pockets. About half past five o'clock this morning an alarm was given by the sentinels at the Saut du Matelot, (some of the faithful) and the great bell was set ringing; but on the rumour being found out to be a false one, it was stopped, and but a few of the inhabitants turned out, who immediately retired again to their respective habitations.

21st. Employed in preparing carcasses, (to pour defiance into the mouths of the rebels artillery,) and fixing wall-pieces round the garrison.

Only a few musket-shots fired from St. Rocks. The block-house behind the Hotel Dieu was completely finished, and the one at Cape Diamond very much advanced. Very few of the enemy seen today. Another emigrant is said to have deserted over the battery behind the barracks.

22nd. The sentinel above-mentioned, it seems, did not desert, but committed a most unsoldierlike offence; for being taken ill on his post, he went directly home to his barracks, without acquainting the guard. Late last night a young gentleman, clerk to Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell, who had been taken prisoner about the time St. Bruit was burned, came into the town by way of Drummond's wharf, and brought in one of the enemy with him, having got under our guns, (the French militia having the guard), without being challenged; he gives an account of great preparations making among the besiegers for storming the town: confirms their number as being in all about 1500, and that their general's head-quarters were at Holland House, on the St. Foy Road: that Montgomery resolved on making a grand attack between that evening and Christmas, having assured his party that they should most certainly dine in town on or before that day. He likewise maintains that great numbers were infected by that dreadful scourge the small-pox, and that they had many killed as well as wounded during the period of their working the guns at their battery. In short, that they were very much dissatisfied with the general situation of affairs; but that General Montgomery, with the promise of giving to each man who would volunteer to mount the wall with him the sum of 100 £, had gained their assent to hazard an attack.

All this matter being corroborated by his associate, extraordinary pickets, and additional guards, were ordered. Continued throwing shells as usual into St. Rocks.

23rd. Most of the Town under arms, in expectation of an attack; but nothing material happened. Busy all day in mounting more flanking guns. One of the emigrants killed from St. Rocks, while standing sentinel on the two-gun battery. In the evening a deserter came in; but on examining him closely, his accounts were so contradictory, both in regard to their numbers and intentions that little or no credit was given him; on the contrary, we suspected he only came in as a spy, to mislead us by false or supposititious information, and if possible to desert again to the enemy

with intelligence; in consequence of which, instead of being well treated, as he seemed to expect, he was sent to gaol. He formerly did duty in this town with the 52nd. regiment, when quartered here, and marched off with his comrades when they were ordered to Boston; so that it is imagined he deserted that corps in the dubious skirmish which took place at Lexington in Kentuel, as he mentions having been present in that affair, but was left wounded on the field, and afterwards forced by threatening measures into the enemy's service. A few of the besiegers seen about the heights, and in St. Rocks. Threw shells into the enemy's position all night. Still all quiet.

24th. The volunteer picket continued, in expectation of an attack. Busy in mounting more flanking guns. Nothing else particular. All the posts were re-inforced and the night passed away in tranquility. The usual proceeding of annoying our foes, by throwing shells, regularly continued.

25th. Still employed in bringing up more heavy cannon to bear on the works of the besiegers. Last night one of the British Militia unfortunately killed a sergeant of the Royal Emigrants, it is said in a quarrel, havng shot him dead on the spot.

26th. The volunteer picket continued under arms. This morning the coroner's inquest sat on the body of the man who was shot yesterday, and after due examination, brought in the verdict, murder. About noon we received intelligence that about 350 of the enemy had got into St. Rocks last night, with their scaling ladders, and meditated a decisive stroke this evening; in consequence of which, every one was on the spot, expecting they would attempt to carry the town by a coup de main: but the night passed in silence on their side; on ours. we continued to throw shells from our guns as usual, and to keep a strict look out, at the advanced posts, for fear their intentions should be verified, to our peril and damage, and that any ambuscades may be frustrated, which their sulking parties may attempt to form, being determined to oppose them, however numerous, with the utmost vigor.

27th. The volunteer picket still continued. Employed in reinforcing the different out-posts, and destroying out-houses, which might shelter the besiegers. A few cannon fired at the suburb of Minues, to drive the rebels from their lodgment there. Mounted more guns in the lower town during the evening. Shells at night as usual, from the howitzers.

28th. The volunteer picket mounted guard as usual; but everything passed in tranquility. Nothing else this day worthy of relation. These deceptive calms, however, we fear, forebode a sharp storm, and carry some great events in their bosom, from what we can at present discover.

29th. This morning early another deserter came in, who confirmed the information which we had received, regarding their intentions of attacking us by surprise, and also agreed in his account with that of Mr. Wolfe, of their numbers; in consequence of which most of the out-posts were reinforced, and more cannon mounted today.

30th. Very quiet all day. Only a few of the enemy to be seen. Fired a few shots at their out-guard at St. Rocks, and threw a great number of shells this evening into that neighborhood. The Volunteer picket continued as usual.

31st. The darkness of last night, and the gloominess of the morning, seemed fit for the blackest designs, and, as many suspected, would effectually encourage the blow meant and planned against this place; and so it turned out: for about half past five o'clock in the morning we were all alarmed at our pickets with the report of an attack being made by the enemy: in consequence of which the alarm bell of the cathedral rung, and all the drums beat to arms; during which they sent in a number of shells from their battery, (whilst we were stationed in the quarter of Recollects) which burst in all directions with a great crash, and served to increase the alarm of those who yet remained in the interior of the fortress. Colonel McLean was informed by a person just come from the grand battery that the post of Saut de Matelot was in

possession of the enemy; upon hearing which we repaired to the lower town to reinforce the guard, but on arriving at the place of action, found all in disorder and confusion; learnt that a number of the other picket who had advanced too precipitately, were made prisoners along with Adjutant Mills of the British Militia, and that Captain Lester had narrowly escaped. This being the situation of things, there was no keeping of any order among either the few British or French Militia, who had repaired to the assistance of this post, for there were two other attacks made at the same time. Day-light appearing, in some small degree relieved our distress, and removed a considerable share of anxiety, but even then we found there were no proper commanders, at least any whose authority had sufficient weight with the people so as to keep them to the charge or lead them on. Our out-post was thus surprised, without, I may freely say, firing a gun; the guard and advanced parties being made prisoners; and the enemy having thus gained possession of the barrier after a short struggle, advanced to the narrow pass that leads to the lower town, and took possession of the houses as they came along, from the back parts of which a constant fire of musket-shot was kept up by them, and returned by us under the best cover we could find at this critical juncture; for had the enemy pushed boldly on through the defile, having got under our last barrier in the Saut au Matelot they must certainly have carried it. While things were at this crisis, a most seasonable reinforcement of the heroic band of volunteers arrived, aided by the volunteer company formed by the captains of our merchant-vessels, the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell, Captain Nairn, and Lieutenant Anderson (the latter of whom was killed by a shot through the head); and being thus aided by such able officers, things soon bore a very different aspect; for having disposed of the greatest part of the whole body in the neighboring houses (say Captain Gill's, Mr. Vialar's, and Lymburner's) from which places we kept up a constant fire of musketry, we prevented the enemy from getting over our barrier, or advancing by any other quarter;

at this very moment a sailor got upon the stage behind the barrier-gate, and laid hold of a scaling-ladder, which the rebels had put up and were attempting to ascend, and pulled it over his head. This we mounted against an end-window, which faced the street, being that of the house next the barrier-gate, in which the enemy had made a lodgment, when a Mr. Dambourgesse, doing duty in the Royal Emigrants as an officer, and Captain Nairn of the same corps. mounted the ladder, followed by many others, and having forced the window, made themselves very soon masters of the place, after killing one of the enemy on the spot, and wounding several others. In this place they continued intrenched for nearly an hour, during which time the fire of small arms from both sides was kept up extremely hot and galling, in which dispute the British Militia were the only corps that suffered; the first man killed was a servant of Mr. Drummond, at the corner of Flanigan's Hangard; a servant of Mr. Renaud was also wounded in the thigh, and a Mr. Lester mortally wounded at the end of Mr. Lymburner's gallery; Charles Daley was also wounded in the mouth, while firing the great gun, in the redoubt which enfiladed the street from the 2nd. barrier gate, and a Mr. Fraser, ship-builder, was shot dead by my side at the two pair of stairs' window in Lymburner's house; however, these horrid spectacles wrought but little on our minds, who were determined to fight to the last; for notwithstanding these unhappy accidents, the firing on our side never ceased until such time as victory declared in our favor, a circumstance as unexpected as singular, for about nine o'clock we found ourselves in possession of nearly 200 prisoners, with our friends formerly taken released, and busy in escorting them off. How we were conquerors at a juncture when we imagined all lost, and at a time when we so little expected it, you will now be informed, viz. The governor being apprised by repeated messengers, some voluntary, while others were ordered to carry him intelligence to the castle, in rotation of duty, how likely the lower town was to fall into the hands of the enemy, they having forced our out-post, and nearly gained our last barrier, he, in consequence of this, with the greatest coolness,

ordered an immediate sortie to be made from Palace Gate to outflank them, conducted by Captain Lawes of the Royal Engineers, which party was covered by a Captain McDougal of the Royal Emigrants, and this body had no sooner gained the bottom of the hill than they fell in with the rearguard of the enemy, who were so much confounded at so unexpected an attack, that they immediately threw down their arms, and submitted themselves prisoners without firing a shot. Captain Lawes kept boldly advancing (leaving McDougal to dispose of the enemy who had fallen into his hands, as was thought proper) and soon gained the out-post at Saut du Matelot, which he entered without opposition, none of his party having as yet come up, and rushes into the midst of the rebels crying out, with the greatest sang froid, "You are all my prisoners." If the rear party, which consisted of upwards of 300, were astonished at being made prisoners so unexpectedly, you may well conceive the surprise of those who had made themselves masters of our post, at being addressed in such language. "How," said they, "your prisoners? you are ours." "No, no, my dear creatures," replied he, "I vow to God you are all mine, don't mistake yourselves." "But where are your men?" "O, ho," says he, "make yourselves easy about that matter, they are all about here, and will be with you in a twinkling." Conversation to that purpose, for near ten minutes, was carried on, during which period a proposal was made to kill him, which was overruled; in the interim his party arrived, made themselves masters of the post, and placing the enemy between two fires, secured it, with the assistance of Captain McDougal. Thus was the whole body of the enemy which had taken possession of the Saut du Matelot were made prisoners. In this manner we within the town were released from impending ruin through this unexpected manoeuvre of the general, by which means their whole party was either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners; among the former were three officers, and 50 privates; 44 were wounded. On our side we had only five killed and about twice as many wounded, (say thirteen, two of whom are since dead.) The total amount of prisoners taken was 427,

thirty-two of whom were officers, including Lieutenant-Colonel Green, Major Biclowe, and many others of note.

Thus ended the attack of the Saut du Matelot, which was conducted in person by our old acquaintance Arnold, who being wounded in the leg, during the approach, was carried off to the general hospital; as soon as the enemy were seen approaching, a constant fire of musketry was kept up from behind the barracks all along by the pickets, to the Saut du Matelot battery, on their advancing party, by which great numbers were killed and wounded. Several of the former were not yet covered with the snow, of which there was a great fall immediately after they were found, and victory was scarcely declared in the town, when the enemy made another attack at Près de Ville, near Drummond's Wharf, and the Potash, of which many of the town were ignorant—this body was repulsed, leaving behind them nine killed and two wounded. A party of the garrison was afterwards ordered to sally out to St. Rocks, which, after bringing in a 6-pounder brass field-piece with the small mortars, shells, &c., of the enemy's battery, set fire to almost the whole village of St. Rocks, beginning a little below Palace Gate, taking in McCord's street, the Intendant's palace, and the whole of that neighborhood, with several houses near the Saut du Matelot, which were all entirely consumed before next morning. Thus ended the glorious operations of a day which threatened destruction to Quebec and its inhabitants, with the total subversion of the whole province. Let us therefore, with one voice, express our gratitude to the King of kings for our miraculous preservation: for the Almighty was with us in the day of distress; the Lord of Hosts severely smote our enemy: they were overwhelmed as with a whirlwind, and left us triumphant to gather them up and lead them into captivity; for which blessing, glory, honour and praise be to the Most High. At a subsequent period, St. Silvester's day, (so named in the Roman Calendar from a bishop of Rome in 314), the anniversary of this contest was commemorated by the survivors, as a festival, with the usual solemnities observed on such an occasion.

JAN. 1ST., 1776.

Everything quiet during the night. In the morning two Canadians came in, thinking the lower town in possession of the enemy, who, upon being carried to the main guard and examined, reported that they had come from the general hospital that morning, where there was no account given of General Montgomery. This intelligence, joined to the circumstance of a fur cap, marked in the bottom R. M., having been brought in, immediately led us to suspect that he must have been killed in leading his men on to the attack of our outpost at Près de Ville. A Canadian, also, named Gagne, who had been out plundering, having found a considerable sum of money on the body of one of the rebel officers, orders were sent down to bring up all the dead bodies from that quarter, amongst which were found by a sergeant and drummer, who went out, (fortunately for us) General Montgomery also his aide-de-camp Captain McPherson, a Captain Cheesman of their artillery, and a general's orderly sergeant, all lying dead together, pierced with wounds. This unexpected discovery gave new spirits to the town, and greatly relieved us from the apprehensions of any second attack. The prisoners, officers and men, appear much pleased with their usage, it being greatly beyond their expectations. A great many shells thrown into the farther part of St. Rocks; otherwise all quiet.

2nd. Nothing remarkable all day:—the governor down surveying the post at Sault du Matelot, and giving fresh orders in regard to its fortifications. All the militia under orders to attend the sombre funeral of our late companions, Messrs. Fraser and Kenzie, who were slain during the conflict of the 31st.

3rd. Several prisoners were brought in, among whom was an officer, having come too nigh the walls, thinking their friends were in possession of the lower town; they all agreed that the report of all the country was that the lower town was taken, and that no accounts had reached them of General Montgomery's death; on the contrary, a report was spread that General Carleton was killed. A firing of small arms heard

towards St. Foye, but in no way accounted for. Continued to throw shells as usual. This day Major Meigs, prisoner, was allowed to go out of town to collect and bring in all the officers baggage, and is to return on the 5th instant.

4th. Every thing quiet. This day attended the funeral of our late comrade Mr. John Lester, who was mortally wounded on the 31st ult.

5th. No accounts this day worth rehearsing; only that one of our friendly citizens, John McCord, came to town, and had an audience with Captain Fraser over the ramparts.

6th. This day all well. Nicholas Marchant was tried for the murder of Niel Nicolson, as formerly mentioned; when the jury, on mature consideration, brought it in manslaughter.

7th. This morning two Frenchmen and a savage, taken prisoners, were set at liberty, and sent over among the Point Levi people: for what purpose is not yet known. Three Canadians taken prisoners while plundering without the walls.

8th. This morning we were informed that General Wooster had arrived from Montreal to take the command of the rebels without; and that the detachment of troops he commanded there were all ordered down to reinforce them. At parade time 100 of the prisoners taken on the 31st ult. (being all old Britons) entered voluntarily into Colonel McLean's corps of Royal Emigrants, to do duty with them till the first of June next (each of them having received a dollar to drink, on their swearing the oath of allegiance to King George), after which period they are to be discharged, and sent home at the expense of government, should they be inclined to leave the province; at the same time whatever baggage they had left in the country was sent into town, from the camp of their late associates. The volunteer picket discontinued for the present. Every thing quiet.

9th. Nothing to-day remarkable on either side. An easterly storm has continued blowing with great vehemence incessantly for the last three days.

10th. Clear weather:—fatigue parties out, employed in clearing away the snow from the guns and walls. Busied in making new barriers to the lower town, and fortifying the Saut de Matelot.

11th. Every thing quiet:—not even a surmise to-day, in or without the town.

12th. The same:—only three more Canadians who had been taken prisoners, and a savage, set at liberty, and crossed for Point Levi, along with three Recollect Friars.

13th. Busy in erecting a mortar battery to play upon the farther houses of S. Rocks, where the enemy station their main guard; a foraging party out today for fire-wood, and also square timber.

16th. This morning a Recollect Friar went out at Palace Gate and walked over the ice to Beauport; and the same day Mrs. Richée got leave to go into the country by way of the general hospital, but was stopped by the rebels at the end of St. Rocks. A sortie was made to bring in the Record of the Province, which was lodged in a vault under the Intendant's palace, now presenting a mass of ruins and rubbish, in consequence of the late conflagration.

17th. A Mademoiselle Baboche (since pensioned by our Government), who had been employed to bring in intelligence, and was detected by the Yankees, and confined, made her escape, and came in to-day. She confirms the account of General Wooster and his three companions having arrived from Montreal, accompanied by Mr. Walker, and who it seems also takes a command; and further says, that since the affair of the 31st ult. above 200 of them had deserted; and in going off the Canadians endeavored to stop them, whereupon a scuffle ensued, and it was reported that several of them were killed. There you may see how the Faithfuls serve us; it is thus we are requited for our abundant lenity showed them upon all occasions.

18th. This being the Queen's birthday, a royal salute was fired, in honor of Her Majesty.

19th. Every thing quiet; the mortar battery opened

against the enemy's guard-house at the west end of St. Rocks, and continued playing till two o'clock; it escaped destruction, but great damage was done by the bombs to the neighboring houses. A sortie was made today into St. Rocks for fire-wood (of which we began to be in great want), and upwards of 35 cords of that material were brought in, and divided among the British and French Militia. In the evening three of the late prisoners who had entered into Colonel McLean's corps made their escape behind the barracks, and carried with them their arms and ammunition. About 11 o'clock the rebels set fire to some of the remaining houses in St. Rocks, to prevent us, as we supposed, from getting in hay and wood, which was lodged in some of them.

20th & 21st. These two days nothing particular only that on the night of the 21st, the enemy fired a sloop that lay behind the ruins of the Intendant's palace, and more houses in S. Rocks; otherwise all quiet in the garrison.

22nd. This day a long 26-pounder was brought down to the mortar battery, (and mounted en barbette), which is likely to annoy the enemy greatly at their guard-house: nothing else now occurring, except that fatigue parties are out clearing away the snow from the lines, which are more open to assault in consequence of the drifting of the late heavy storms.

23rd. This day, a party having made a sortie under cover of a strong guard, and a brass field-piece 3-pounder, a great deal of wood was got in. In the morning about eleven o'clock, we witnessed the burning of many houses in St. Rocks by the rebels, which appalling conflagration continued all night, and had a very grand effect amid the thick darkness which surrounded all other objects. Busy in making additions to the battery at the Saut du Matelot.

24th. In the evening a party went out under the command of the brave Captain Lawes, and lodged in Mr. Drummond's distillery all night, with intent to surprise the enemy's marauders in case they should attempt burning the shipping, as it was expected; but

none of them appeared:—N. B. This extra guard it is said is to be continued until further orders. The recreant enemy burnt more houses in St. Rocks, as it would appear for the purpose of exciting our feelings of retaliation hereafter, as they are debarred from injuring us in a more material manner, at present, and not inclined to attempt a second coup de main, under cover of the smoke, as it is understood by intelligent officers that the destruction of the suburbs was the certain precursor of their late desperate effort.

25th. This day the guards are to be relieved at nine o'clock, on account of a sortie being made by a party under the command of Major McKenzie (to bring in wood), covered by a field-piece 3-pounder. While the party was out, a great many shot and shells were fired at the guard-house, from the Devil's battery, as the enemy called that on which out two heavy guns are mounted. The governor went out and desired the party to advance, to divert their attention; to which they conformed with the utmost alacrity. Our people being now within musket-shot, the enemy's out-sentinel having taken the alarm, was immediately sent off for succour, as we suppose, for in less than half an hour their guard was reinforced by a detachment from Minues, consisting of 50 men; but neither they nor the guard chose to attack us, although our party, which consisted of only 30 men was posted within reach of their musketry. A little before the retreat was beat, one of the enemy separated himself before the rest, and seemed to be coming over to us on snow-shoes; but when he got well within musket-shot, whether through fear of our firing on him, or that he had advanced through the spirit of enterprise, he returned to his party.

From the 26th to the beginning of February there are facts of daily occurrence which too plainly bespeak the direful effects of the fatal contest that has divided the British empire against itself. Our foes must now be convinced that they have nothing to trust to beyond implicit submission or effectual resistance; and the crisis is of so delicate and important a nature that we cannot at present hazard a conjecture as to the choice

they will hereafter make. Large reinforcements are expected from England, and Halifax, as soon as the river is freed from ice; and the Laurentian stream, stained with Montcalm's, Wolfe's, and Montgomery's blood, will probably smoke for another campaign with the thunder of opposing hosts, and re-echo the resonant groans of warriors whose blood may for a third time saturate the green sward of Canadian plains; although it is to be hoped that no more will be shed in the course of further rebellion, and that our troops and those of the provincials will cease to slaughter each other for the diversion of our natural enemies in Europe.

Feb. 8th. This day the enemy were observed in great numbers about their out-posts, and burnt many houses in the suburbs. We attribute the cessation of their firing to their cleaning their muskets. They have two field-pieces placed by Minues on the highway, ready to act against any of our sallying parties. This evening, a detachment, under the command of Captain Nairn, lodged in St. John's suburbs, with a view to detecting some one or other of these vagabonds as they come to burn the houses, but none came.

9th. Everything quiet. A severe snow.

10th. Nothing particular. The snow storm still continues.

11th. This day about noon, a flag of truce was seen approaching. Colonel McLean demanded their business over the walls, and was answered, that they had letters from Captain Godwin of our artillery, addressed to the Governor, along with several others, of various import; however, they were dismissed without our receiving any of their credentials. It has been supposed that the purport of the embassy was to exchange a Captain Godwin for a Captain Lamb of their artillery, a prisoner and wounded. He conducted a field-piece mounted on a sledge, against the first barrier, on the morning of the 31st December, but was forced to abandon it on account of the snow, and was afterwards shot in the eye, and made prisoner.

12th. All the garrison off duty employed in clearing away the snow from the ramparts. |

13th & 14th. Still busy in clearing away the snow. A great many people seen with sledges at Minues, and at the guard-house at St. Rocks. Kept up a constant fire on the former for some time; and so well directed was it that their duration there was but short. Five more deserters went off this morning early, three of them were prisoners that enlisted in Colonel McLean's corps; the others were, one of his own men, and a sailor, who, as we suppose, were corrupted by the rest. They knocked down the militia sentinel, and threw his gun over the walls, whilst he was upon duty behind the barracks. More houses fired in St. Rocks suburbs. Another flag of truce seen advancing, but was not allowed to approach.—N. B. The sailor and emigrants did not go over the wall behind the barrack, but over the pickets behind the Hotel Dieu, &c. This convent was founded by a French duchess of the first eminence (D'Aiguillon), at an early period, for nuns who should exclusively attend to the sick. During the siege in 1760 they carried on a clandestine communication with the French troops outside the walls, which so exasperated General Murray, that he swore he would turn them all out, and convert their convent into a barrack.

15th. Nothing particular all day. Several of the rebels seen at the old battery. This evening four more deserters went off, from behind the barracks, being also part of those who had enlisted with Colonel McLean's corps, as it would appear, simply from a treacherous motive. An order issued out, that no persons are to come into the street, during the darkness of the evening, without a light. In the evening was heard a smart firing of small arms from St. John's suburbs by the enemy's marksmen; and more houses were fired at the same time. The shipping at St. Rocks was also attempted to be set on fire by the enemy; but this scheme was prevented by our endeavors, and the vessels were saved.

16th. This morning all the prisoners that had entered into Colonel McLean's corps (in consequence of the frequent desertion among them) were again sent to gaol, a circumstance which has seemingly given great satisfaction to all the other members of the garrison,

as this plan is the only effectual one that can be devised to frustrate their traitorous designs. Many shots fired at Minues from the Devil's battery, great numbers of the enemy being seen in that quarter. This evening a volunteer picket was again established, and the guards at Cape Diamond and Port Louis were reinforced, in consequence of the height of snow in these places, as the enemy might have walked in at the embrasures, had they felt inclined to make another assault.

17th. Nothing particular:—the volunteer picket still continued, until we have clear moonlight all night. Several houses fired in the evening in St. John's suburbs, and some shot fired from the enemy.

18th. Every thing quiet—the guards on the ramparts continued to be reinforced. More houses set on fire in the suburbs, by the rebellious marauders.

19th. No occurrences worth relating. The enemy continued to amuse themselves by burning more houses in St. John's suburbs during the night; a barbarous measure, which can be of no service to them beyond the pleasure of doing us as much damage as lies in their power.

20th. Nothing particular; only that an officer and twenty privates of the British Militia were ordered to be ready at day-break to make a sortie. Strong pickets held, and all the guards reinforced, in expectation of an attack; but the night passed in tranquility. The enemy still continued, without intermission, to fire the houses in St. John's suburbs.

21st. At day-break the snow-shoe party went out at St. John's Gate, to cover the bringing in of wood from the few remaining houses. About eight o'clock the enemy fired a few cannon-shot from behind the right of the old battery. Our guns played away briskly on their guard-house in that neighborhood, which annoyed them greatly. In the evening, a party under the command of Colonel Caldwell, Captain Nairn, and several subaltern officers, took possession of the English burying place in the suburbs, fortifying a house that stood there, and which was under cover of a stone

wall, which inclosed that spot, to secure the remainder of the houses for the use of the garrison, and lay hold of some of the vagabonds who usually pay that place a visit almost every night: a few made their appearance at different times, but as soon as they discovered our out-sentinels near the cemetery (or rather, perceived the approach of the lieutenant, who was then on his rounds, and also commanded these desperadoes, the British Militia), they made off without firing a shot.

22nd. This morning the out-party was relieved and the garrison busied in getting in wood. In consequence of the general tranquility without the walls, all the out-parties were ordered in at seven o'clock. Every thing passed in quiet.

23rd. A covering party stationed out all day which continued till night, so that a great deal of wood was brought in by our foragers. Very few of the enemy seen today. In the afternoon a few shots were fired at Minues and the guard-house at the end of St. Rocks. This evening a deserter came in from the enemy, who gave a very contradictory account of himself; inso-much, that after a short examination, he was sent to gaol as a spy; it is much suspected that he has been sent in by our foes, to learn the cause of there being no more desertion, and to form some plan of aggression with the prisoners that entered Colonel McLean's corps, whom they might still imagine at liberty, and just as capable of carrying on their perfidious designs as before.

24th. Every thing quiet. By the deserter that came in last night, we learn that both the Generals, Lee and Schuyler, had been ordered to reinforce the rebels without; but were both countermanded, (particularly as there is a report of Colonel Johnson having entered the province with a large party of Indians,) owing to the critical situation of affairs throughout the colonies for by a newspaper account, Governor Dunmore was said to be destroying their sea-ports in Virginia, while other royalists to the southward had given the liberty boys a severe drubbing: he likewise

acquaints us, that Governor Tryon was intrenched on Long Island, a most proper spot for landing our soldiers, and reducing the colonists to obedience; and had been reinforced by large bodies of foreign troops: that without, the enemy were employed in making scaling ladders; and that he left Montreal lately, where things were in confusion, owing to the militia officers in that quarter refusing to deliver up their commissions. In town all well, and in high spirits. He likewise says that Colonel Clinton had arrived with about 100 men, and is to take the command.

25th. This morning between the hours of eight and nine o'clock, the enemy fired six shots from their new battery, which they have taken great care not to expose to view; so that their balls are merely thrown at random into the town, and hitherto have done no damage. The volunteer picket still kept up on duty at Mr. Collin's house for the convenience of being near the ramparts in case of an attack. By the newspaper which the deserter brought in, we find a great account of the events of the 31st December, which, when it reaches Old England, will cause much uneasiness to our friends, as they will naturally imagine from the numbers taken and killed of the enemy, that many of their own friends within the walls must have fallen a sacrifice to their heroic exertions in repelling the invaders.

26th. The regular picket which has hitherto met at the Hotel Dieu was this day ordered to meet at Mr. Drummond's at retreat beating, for the purpose of being near the ramparts. The Cape Diamond guard continues to be regularly reinforced every night, and sentinels are placed without the walls; so that there is no relaxation in our vigilance. Several of the enemy were seen in scattered parties lurking about the heights, for the purpose, we suppose, of reconnoitring. This evening a person went out over the ice on snow-shoes to the island of Orleans, for intelligence, with an intent to return in a few days.

27th. All day a very great thaw, and rain in the evening. Mounted more flanking guns at Cape Dia-

mond, being dubious of an attack in that quarter. Some of the colony seen about their old battery, seemingly employed in clearing away the snow:—N.B. Omitted to mention in its proper place that there has been a guard of twelve men stationed at Lauchlan Smith's house for these ten days past, without Palace Gate, which is still continued, to prevent the enemy from firing the shipping, or surprising that part of the town; and the guard that was kept in the distillery is now taken off.

28th. This morning an inhabitant of Chambly, (15 miles from Montreal), out fifteen days, and lately arrived from the island of Orleans, came in at the Saut du Matelot, and brings us the following agreeable accounts, which he learnt from undoubted authority in that neighborhood; viz., That advice had arrived from Montreal of a general officer having landed at New York with a reinforcement of 10,000 men; (it was rather doubted that so large a body had arrived at such an unseasonable time of the year;) and that large reinforcements had sailed from Halifax and Louisbourg to give early succours to this place; also that the enemy had sent about 150 sledges over the lakes to bring their expected reinforcements; but had returned with only about 100 men, whom they picked up as recruits at different places, their intended succours being recalled, having enough to do in their own colonies, with the different subdivisions of the king's troops; and he further states that the whole amount of their force, both here and above, did not exceed 2,000 men. He likewise says, that the enemy have been talking of going away, but that the country people won't let them; saying, "that as you have brought us into a scrape of this description, you must bring us out of it again, and take Quebec," as it appears they are weak enough to imagine that the invaders would be able to keep it eventually in possession. The enemy have also amused the inhabitants with telling them that General Carleton had offered to give up the garrison, but that they did not choose to take possession until their reinforcements arrive, as they would then be better able to retain it. He also mentioned many other satisfac-

tory circumstances, all of which put the garrison in high spirits:—clear weather, but frosty.

29th. Every thing quiet without:—strong pickets still held, in expectation of an attack. A signal fired from the grand battery.

MARCH 1ST.

Nothing particular all day:—about five in the afternoon, several cannon-shot were fired at a large house on the Beauport side of the river, where the rebels have been seen lurking for these several days past. About eight o'clock this evening a small house at the back of Mr. Drummond's distillery took fire, supposed by the wad from the guns that were fired in the afternoon, they being right over the house, and a number of the town's people went out to extinguish it. Several musket-shots fired at our out-sentinels on duty at Palace Gate, between three and four o'clock in the morning, from a few of the enemy who had lurked about the Intendant's Palace:—otherwise all quiet.

2nd. All well during the day:—in the evening Colonel McLean had like to have been killed while placing the sentinels without the walls, he going out without first acquainting the guard of St. Louis' Gate, who were not aware of the circumstance, and would have taken him for one of the besiegers skulking about in the dusk.

3d. All well during the day:—in the evening three soldiers of Colonel McLean's corps deserted at the old place behind the barracks. Several musket-shot fired from the Beauport side, by our foes, supposed at the people that are expected from the island of Orleans. Clear weather and moonlight.

4th. Nothing particular all day; excepting that two grates (for holding the fire-balls) were placed at Cape Diamond, and a few shots fired from the Devil's Battery into Minues, and also some rockets thrown up at night.

5th. This day perceived that the enemy had dis-

played two flags, a red one at Mr. Lynd's farm, and a black one in the neighborhood of the guard-house, near their old battery. Various are the conjectures concerning them; some imagine them to be signals for prisoners within (who are now very strictly looked after) while others say it is in commemoration of that seditious day at Boston, when Captain Preston is said to have ordered his soldiers to fire upon the populace, during the tumult, and killed several people of the town; and some few think it is to show they will give no quarter when they attack us again. A strong easterly wind, with hail and rain, all night. Mounted more guns on the face of the ramparts. All quiet.

6th. All tranquility. Blowing hard, with hail and snow:—no flag seen to-day.

7th. Fine weather. Fatigue-parties out making a snow ditch without the walls, and mounting more cannon on the face of the ramparts. Many of the enemy seen marching backwards and forwards in the environs of the town. The red flag hoisted again.

8th. Busy in finishing the snow ditch, and mounting more cannon. Some of the enemy were seen passing and repassing from Wolfe's Cove, carrying off square timber. Fired a wall piece at two of them who came rather nigh: one of them fell. This evening about five o'clock, a Canadian from the Beauport side, came in at Palace Gate, and was fired upon by the guard in that neighborhood, but escaped unhurt. He was sent to the governor, but seemed so fatigued and frightened he could get nothing out of him; he was then ordered under the care of Mr. Dunn for that evening, by whom he was conducted to the Lieutenant-Governor's house; but had not remained long there, before he gave them the slip. Great search was made after him; but the poor man was at last found, and soon gave his reasons for leaving the house, having imagined he might have slept where he pleased, and so went to Mr. Marcout's in the lower town: However, Mr. Dunn sent him back for the evening, for fear of any espionage. About eight o'clock the Saut du Matelot guard was alarmed by the firing of small arms on the river towards Beauport, seemingly from

people engaged in that quarter, as upwards of 60 shots were counted. In consequence a number of both British and French militia repaired to the support of that guard. The firing then ceased, though not without a confused cry. Not long after two men were seen approaching upon the ice, who, upon being challenged, answered "Friends," and then desired admittance. We imagined that we should then be able to know the meaning of the firing, but on this point they remained silent; and being immediately conducted to the governor, said they had brought good news, so that every one was anxious for the approach of morning, to know the particulars.

9th. The two persons that came in last night were both Canadians of some consequence above: one of them had been taken prisoner at St. John's, and carried up to the Congress, from whom, by repeated solicitations, he had received permission to return to Canada, they having imagined he was in their interest; the other was an inhabitant of the neighborhood of Montreal, who had prudently remained silent with regard to his public sentiments in the present critical situation of affairs, and consequently was not suspected to be a loyalist: the former of these brought a letter from Governor Tryon of Long Island, (where the rebels have been since intrenched and advantageously posted as well as New York, with upwards of 100 pieces of cannon for the defence of the town, and to obstruct our fleet in its passage up North River,) fraught with agreeable intelligence; also many scraps of newspapers, which inform us of the dismal situation of our enemy to the southward; while the other brought a letter from the superior of the clergy at Montreal, to the Governor also, which, I understand, paints things in that quarter in a miserable situation, and gives information that the enemy intend making an attack in the course of a week, and were preparing scaling ladders for that purpose. All the garrison are in high spirits, and wait with impatience to put a finishing stroke to our long contest. In a few days a gazette is to be published of all the news. This afternoon the man mentioned in the first part of my day's work is

sent out, he being seemingly a fool; at least it was thought more prudent to dismiss him in that manner than keep him in town, lest he should turn out to be something worse.

10th. All well during the day. At ten o'clock at night an alarm was given at Cape Diamond, of a number of people seen approaching the walls, which was announced to the inhabitants by the ringing of bells, and beating of drums. Every one repaired to his post; but after waiting some time under arms, they were all dismissed. The Governor appears extremely satisfied at seeing us all so alert, for in less than half an hour we had 100 men under arms:—the remainder of the night passed in silence.

11th. This morning a general parade of the British Militia took place, who, without any compliment to that corps, made a very respectable, soldier-like appearance. The General (through Colonel Caldwell) thanked us for our alertness in turning out the preceding evening, saying, that he was extremely sorry we were disappointed, being well convinced, that had the enemy approached, they would have met with a very warm reception. One of the sailors of the *Saut du Matelot* guard deserted; but was taken by our out-sentinels at Palace Gate, and sent in irons to gaol; and another who was privy to the action is likewise in confinement.

12th. This day snowy weather. Nothing material occurred.

13th. Clear weather, but cold. Fatigue-parties out clearing away the snow from the walls. A flag of truce from the enemy came in, and said they had papers for General Carleton. They were probably encouraged by a permission granted for the prisoners' baggage to enter the town. But it was answered, that unless they contained supplicating terms, and exhibited a true sense of the heinousness of their crimes, and a wish to implore the King's mercy, they would not be received: on which the party that addressed Major Le Maitre made a low bow and marched off. This will serve as a damper to their confidence, should

they return again with any more attempts at correspondence. All well during these twenty-four hours.

14th. This morning, about 11 o'clock, an out-sentinel of the enemy was seen on the heights near Cape Diamond, which gave occasion to think that there must be some work going on below, or at least that the enemy were posted in that quarter; upon which an officer of the seamen, with 15 men, went out; on seeing whom the Yankee sentinel, after firing his gun, ran off; so that when our party had gained the face of the hill, the enemy below were alarmed, and a smart firing commenced, which lasted about five minutes, during which time our people fired off all their ammunition; not, however, before the whole party had scampered from Wolfe's Cove, leaving behind two or three killed and wounded. It seems they were a working party of pioneers, having raised sheds on the beach; and the circumstance of many of them having no arms gave us strong reasons to suspect so. A number of the enemy seen going towards Montmorency this morning.

15th. A fatigue-party of twenty privates and an officer, out clearing the snow from the ramparts. In the afternoon a canoe was sent off to discover what was doing in the Aunce de Mer, at Wolfe's Cove, but could only see a few men with some sheds they had raised in going up, to keep off the snow. Having kept well to the other shore, they were hailed from that quarter, and some of the Point Levi habitants desired to know if they might bring in provisons; to which they were answered in the affirmative, when they replied they would come over next day. Dark weather, and snow.

16th. At midnight two men in a canoe came up from below with provisions, (the first since the town had been invested.) They were immediately conducted to the governor, and all that we can learn is, that some parishioners in their neighborhood are much disposed, during the present scarcity, to give us assistance. In daily expectation of another attack: a strong French picket held at Mr. Lymburner's; the British Militia about establishing another for the lower town, which it is reported will be held at Mr. Willcock's house:—ran all these 24 hours.

17th. Nothing particular: a few fascines seen put together by the enemy, on the Point Levi side, supposed with an intent to raise a battery. The habitants who came up in the canoe, report that they have got a few small guns, and a 10-inch howitzer on that side: however, we as yet can see no appearance of the people at work. This being St. Patrick's day, the governor (who is a true Hibernian) has requested the garrison to put off keeping it until the 17th May, when he promises they shall be enabled to do it properly, and with the usual solemnities. Busy in preparing three large batteaux to cruise in the river, one of which is to carry a six-pounder. The ice breaking up very fast.

18th. This day no occurrences worth recording, only that Captain Harrison's and Lester's companies assembled, according to orders, at Willcock's post for the first time. The canoe that came on the 16th. instant sett off with large paquets for the priests below, and as is thought, will produce the desired effect on the inhabitants. The enemy were seen transporting ladders from different quarters to this neighborhood, for which reason we keep a very good look out on their motions. All well.

19th. This day snowy weather; in the afternoon, one batteau and two ships' long boats were launched, the first carrying a six-pounder, and the others swivels, and went up as far as Sillery Point, but could discover nothing particular owing to the day being so far spent. Canoes seen passing from Wolfe's Cove in the afternoon, to the other side, transporting (as it is thought) their small pieces of cannon.—N.B. When the boats were sent off, a corps of reserve was ordered out at Cape Diamond, (belonging to the Royal Emigrants,) to support them in case any thing should happen, &c.

20th. Clear weather, but extremely cold. The last of the King's wood was delivered out to-day to the garrison; however, the Governor, and Lieutenant-Governor have still got about 150 cords to spare for the present. The lower town picket regularly attended. All tranquility these last twenty-four hours.

21st. Busy laying platforms for heavy guns and mortars, to bear on the enemy's works, which are now seen erecting at the Point Levi side. Nothing else material.

22nd. * * * * * * * *

25th. This day the advanced guard of a detachment of Canadians, which had been raised by that partisan of tried fidelity, Monsieur Beaujeau, to relieve his friends in the town, was met, as we are informed, by a superior body of the rebels, and completely defeated: the rest, wearied with repeated misfortunes, and finding themselves hardly capable of coping with their foes, who are superior to them in the science of war, are said to have dispersed, and returned home. We will at any rate give them due credit for their good intentions respecting us: but we cannot but place ample confidence in our own British and Canadian Militia, who behave with a steadiness and resolution hardly to be expected from men unused to arms, and seldom met with but in veterans. Lieutenant-Colonel McLean continues indefatigably zealous in the King's service, and Captain Hamilton (acting as Colonel), of His Majesty's ship Lizard, who commands the battalion of seamen, has by his example encouraged both officers and men to act with that alacrity and intrepidity, which is chiefly to be met with as truly characteristic in the hearts of Britons. The judges and other officers of Government, many of whom are considerable sufferers by the present hostile invasion, have all along cheerfully submitted to every privation, in defense of the town, and showed a spirit of perseverance, amidst the most untoward circumstances, that does them the greatest honor.—Considering our being so ill supplied with necessaries, it is hardly to be expected that we should have been at all kept together for so many months, in the midst of such inclement frosts and snows: while we can scarcely refrain from wondering how our enemies without the walls, undisciplined and ill provided as they are, can endure the hardships of so severe a climate, compelled as they must needs be by officers, to whom, by all accounts, they scarcely deign submission. Nor are we supposed to give much credit

to a report, which is supposed by some to be authentic, concerning a memorial and petition said to have been presented to the French King, and signed by thirty of the principal French inhabitants of this province, entreating that potentate to take advantage of the times for the recovery of his ancient province, and promising all his former subjects will crowd with alacrity to his standard.—In our Governor's opinion, the intrepid conduct of the citizens will prove a lasting monument to their honor; and it is to be hoped that their example will inspire the unhappy sufferers in the neighboring states, with similar power of mind, in order to rescue themselves from impending miseries.

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31st. We receive information this day of a desperate plot formed by the prisoners (the Yankee part of them, in particular, the others who had enlisted into Colonel McLean's corps being in a different prison) to escape, and let in General Arnold. It seems at the bottom of the gaol where they were, there is a well from which they procure their water; so that having frequent occasion to go to that place, they concerted a scheme among themselves for effecting their escape; which plan must have been encouraged by some of our *good* friends in town, as we find they were furnished with various instruments for undermining the wall, besides pistols, cutlasses, and other deadly weapons; this fallacious purpose they had nearly effected, but for the vigilance of one of the sentinels. So soon as this circumstance was clearly known, they were all examined; and how much then must our surprise be heightened, when it was found out that one of them had actually decamped. This discovery immediately led to others; for though threats and rewards were held out to the whole of them, only one turned evidence against the rest, and gave the following account of their preconcerted scheme. Had it succeeded, being planned with considerable ability, and supposing that these prisoners had appointed officers of tried courage among themselves, proper to conduct them, when they got out, their first attack was to have been directed

against St. John's Gate, where they meant to cut and destroy every one they met with: this done, having fixed a signal to give notice to their companions who had already escaped, they intended forthwith to turn the guns in that quarter on the town, and set fire to three different houses; the rebels without were then expected to advance with all speed to that gate, while others supported them, by marching towards Palace Gate, where they did not doubt of their comrades within being able to admit them, as there was a detached party on their getting out actually appointed to massacre that guard also: this done, and their friends admitted, they were neither to spare young nor old, but to smite all their foes without mercy, till they had made themselves masters of the town, resolving to a man to conquer or die in that brutal manner. However, that All-seeing Providence, which so miraculously saved us on the 31st December, again distinguished itself on this day. All those who had taken any command among these insurgents (say to the number of twelve) are in irons, closely confined, and the others carefully looked after. The Governor, pleased with this unexpected discovery, and being possessed of the signal expected without by the enemy, immediately resolved to avail himself of the benefit derived from such information, and endeavour to decoy them within range of the ramparts, by ordering out the whole garrison under arms, at two o'clock in the morning, and every man to his alarm-post; which being accordingly done, two small brass field-pieces were brought down to St. John's Gate, and three different fires were kindled in various directions, as if so many houses were burning; when immediately the two guns fired away, and continued repeated discharges of blank cartridge for about ten minutes. The garrison being now supposed to be alarmed, all the church bells were set ringing, and the drums beating; at the same time, small arms were fired in various directions, while a party kept hallooing, Liberty, Liberty for ever.—This scheme, although extremely well-conducted, had not however, unfortunately, the desired effect; for not a single man of the enemy appeared in the face of our works. Had our plan succeeded, and they boldly ad-

vanced in consequence of these signals, instead of being so extremely wary and over-cautious, they would have met with such a reception as would have completely put an end to the blockade, as well as to our tedious fatigues. Another deserter came in to-night, who gives much the same account with the former, and says we shall soon have many more come in.

APRIL 1ST.

To-day nothing new occurred, excepting that a few shot and shells were fired at the enemy's battery from the Upper Town. The rebels have now opened four embrasures, but as yet have fired no cannon. This evening a deserter came in; two others attempted to follow him, but our sentinels prevented them from entering the town, by firing upon them. He informs us that General Wooster, who has hitherto remained at Montreal, is just arrived at the camp with a small party of about 14 men; and further says, that his Canadian allies, who are greatly dispirited, have almost all abandoned the rebels in disgust, and Colonel Hazen's battalion of renegade Canadians, which he was raising in the neighborhood of Chambly, was now reduced by desertion to 60 men; also confirms, to the full extent, what the others have said respecting the insurgent forces being in a sickly condition, and upon the whole very much dissatisfied with their campaigning adventures.

2d. Soft weather, and extremely hot in the morning. A few shells and shot sent from the grand battery. In the afternoon the Lizard's cutter went up the river, and had like to have been taken, off Sillery, by two armed batteaux; was fired at from them, as well as from two pieces of cannon which the enemy had planted on the point, but got back safe to the harbor. This night the extra pickets were discontinued, and all the garrison off duty allowed to sleep in their clothes, till further orders, it being now moonlight.

3d. This morning the enemy opened their battery at Point Levi, nearly on the same spot as those erected during the former siege, with three 12-pounders, and

one eight-inch howitzer. They continued to play away till about twelve o'clock; but their firing did not the least damage. They began again about one o'clock, and finished an hour after, entirely owing to a heavy shower of rain coming on, which lasted all the evening. On our part, as soon as they opened their battery, nine large pieces opened against them, none less than 24-pounders, and two 13-inch mortars, and continued to play upon them with shot and shells as long as they remained in their battery, during which time a number of our shot took effect, and damaged them greatly. At noon we heard the report of six heavy cannon; but cannot conceive what quarter it proceeds from. The evening being very obscure, the extra pickets are again ordered to meet, and lie on their arms all night:—but every thing remains quiet.

4th. This morning the enemy began to fire from their battery, which now mounts four guns besides the howitzer, with shot and shells, which did no damage whatever. Returned the fire, but in a far superior style to theirs. Their battery now appears like a honeycomb, which in my opinion is a target that will not stand much more firing at. Snowy weather, which stops all cannonading for the day. In the night not a hand stirring without the walls, as far as we could see.

5th. All the garrison off duty employed in clearing away the snow from the ramparts. The enemy renewed their fire, which they continued without any effect all the afternoon. In return our artillery-officers fired from the batteries upon them with well-directed cannon. This evening a large schooner that lay in the Aunee de Mer, with several batteaux, drifted down the river with the ice; and about ten o'clock an inhabitant of repute in the neighborhood of Montreal, came in at the Saut du Matelot. He was immediately conducted to the Governor, who delayed hearing his information till morning: so that all we could learn is, that things without are in a most dismal plight. Soon after, a deserter came in at Cape Diamond, who was detained till morning at the main guard for examination, while the other slept at Mr. Melvin's, being related to him.

6th. By the joint information of those who came in-

to the garrison last night, we learn that the enemy are about erecting two other batteries; one in the neighborhood of the old one on the heights, and the other at the ferry-house on the river St. Charles, under cover of the old redoubt on its north side. The number of sick at present is said to form nearly a third of the whole army of the besiegers, among whom there are constant desertions; and it is said they were not able to bring their troops to hazard another attack. Also that a few of the inhabitants down the river, to the number of 40, had risen (being headed by their priests), with a firm intention of surprising the enemy's guard at Point Levi, and bringing them prisoners to town; but they were unfortunately betrayed. However, they took post in a large house, where, after bravely defending themselves some time, they were obliged to surrender, having about five of their number killed, and several others wounded; among the latter the priest who commanded them mortally. On the enemy's part they had seven killed, besides wounded. Since this skirmish General Wooster has ordered all the priests and inhabitants below of consequence to be sent up to camp, that he may detain them as hostages for the frustration of any more such attempts.

7th. Blowing weather, with rain, &c. Nothing particular occurring.

8th. Fatigue-parties out, making additional batteries to play on the enemy. Carpenters employed erecting two block-houses without the walls. This evening a random shot from the enemy's battery, killed Mr. Melvin's son, a child of about 8 years of age, almost in his mother's arms—the only accident of the kind that has happened since the 31st of December.

9th. This morning a few shots fired from the enemy's battery as usual, but did no damage. About twelve o'clock a deserter of rather genteel appearance came in at Cape Diamond, from whom we learn that the whole army without is in a miserable situation; that there were not more than 1800 of them, altogether; and only 1000 of these fit to do duty. Confirms the accounts of the last deserter, and says notwithstanding that they

are about raising two other batteries, which will chiefly mount 12-pounders and howitzers, they having only one 24-pounder brass field-piece in their train of artillery; and that they still meditate another attack on or before the 15th instant. Also, that a plan was actually formed for destroying the shipping, which was to be undertaken by a set of officers, for a reward of £300. He further states, that he had never taken up arms among them, but followed the army as sutler, having formerly belonged to Sir John Johnstone's corps; and adds, that Arnold had that morning set off for Montreal, to take the command there. In short, he says, in a few words, (though many suspect he has been sent in as a spy,) that if we keep a good look-out we have nothing to fear from the besiegers—a hint which was immediately adopted, for now all the garrison off duty, except those who are for guard next day, are assembled at their different pickets.

10th. At an early hour this morning, a young man, who was taken in the fall of last year with the vessels above, near Montreal, came down from Cap Rouge in a canoe, at the potash: from him we learn little or nothing new, he having remained all the winter above. He says the Gaspée brig is much damaged by lying aground, and must have a thorough repair, before she can be fit for service. The usual employment, cannonading, continues. All quiet these twenty-four hours past.

11th. Blowing, disagreeable weather; not a gun fired to-day; a few of the enemy seen at their new battery on the heights; the snow going away apace.

12th. A few guns fired with hot shot from Point Levi, which were all intended to burn the shipping. Some of their balls took place, but no bad consequences ensued. On our part we gave them in return a very warm reception, by which they were soon silenced. In the evening we were a little alarmed in the lower town, owing to our hearing some firing from above; but we soon learnt it was the explosion of the loaded pistols which were in the fire-balls, thrown in while burning, on the ramparts. At the same time there were several

sky-rockets thrown up, to perplex the people without, who are accustomed to make such signals.—N.B. This scheme we have frequently adopted, for various reasons.

13th. Busy erecting another block-house in the neighborhood of Mount Pleasant. In the afternoon a slight cannonading commenced from Point Levi, which was smartly returned.

14th. Employed laying new platforms, and mounting heavy cannon. to bear on the enemy's works. A few shots fired at all their batteries. In expectation of another attack, all the garrison are under arms. Dark gloomy weather.

15th. A number of shots exchanged to-day. Some of the enemy's missiles with red-hot balls, intended to fire the shipping in the Cul de Sac; but their infuriate scheme of destruction had not the least effect. Every thing in a state of tranquility during the night.

16th. Nothing particular all day, only that 8 pieces of cannon were placed on Mr. Grant's wharf and hang-guard. A few shots fired at Point Levi, and returned from the enemy's battery.

17th. At mid-day two deserters came in at the Saut du Matelot with their arms. They confirm in some measure the information the last one brought in (Mr. Chauser), that the besiegers, who still meditated an attack, were erecting their new batteries with all expedition, and planning a scheme to destroy the shipping in the Cul de Sac. They likewise say, that the New York troops, consisting of about three hundred, whose period of service has expired, have refused to do duty any longer; and that the night before they themselves came in, 150 of that division of the army had actually revolted with an intention to join us, previously to which scheme they intended to burn their magazine; but being discovered, they were all made prisoners, and disarmed: notwithstanding which they still huzzaed for the king. All this intelligence did not in the least slacken our zeal in the performance of our duty. Fire-balls and rockets as usual.

18th. This day nothing worth recording; only a few shots exchanged as before.

19th. Fatigue parties out, raising a battery to oppose the enemy at the ferry. Every thing quiet these twenty-four hours.

20th. Early this morning two of our people, who were taken with the fleet, near Montreal, in the fall, made their escape in a canoe from Pointe aux Trembles, 7 leagues from town, (so called from the *Tremble* or aspen-poplar growing on the spot,) and came in at Pres de Ville, from whom we learn, that Hector McNeil has taken command of all the vessels, and that the Yankees were preparing the Gaspée for a fire-ship, to burn the shipping, and had offered 2000 livres to any incendiaries that would undertake it; but not having the money to pay down, no one would engage to perform that notorious service, although several of the French Acadians (i. e. those of Nova Scotia, formerly called Acadie) had offered to do it on these terms; also that many of the people who had left the town were actually in the service of the rebels, particularly Messrs. Wells, Swift and Freeman.—General Carleton, it may be observed, had permitted every one who wished to depart from the garrison, to leave it, as he was determined not to have any correspondence kept up with the rebels. They likewise inform us that a report prevails in the enemy's camp, that Colonel Caldwell, (a most active and diligent officer, and faithful subject of His Majesty, who commanded the Militia all the winter,) with the troops under his command, at different posts, was coming down the country, notwithstanding his being a considerable sufferer by the invasion, to our assistance; and that General Arnold, who escaped from us on the 31st of December, had gone up to Montreal to oppose them; and also, that General Lee, with about 2000 men, who was endeavoring to pass the lakes, had lost all his cannon, and afterwards hearing that the Canadians would not join him, but remain strictly neuter, returned without performing any service. Our informant further says, that Walker and Price, who had gone up to the Congress to give evidence against General Prescott, (who was taken with the fleet

last fall, and it is said, treated with such rigor, that from his age and infirmities fatal consequences might be apprehended,) were put under arrest at Philadelphia, for misleading its members by the solemn assurance they had given of the inhabitants of this province in general being ready to join any army that might be sent into this country, our enemies having found the contrary to their woful experience; and lastly, he states, that Mr. Chauser, who came in lately, was a "formidable" spy, (sent no doubt to overhear any secret whispers among the besieged, and learn our future purposes of aggression,) having a few days before received a company as a reward for undertaking that service. All these matters put together have not only raised our spirits (well knowing that we shall soon have reinforcements,) but have redoubled our vigilance in securing the garrison from assault during these dark nights, for in the day time we fear nothing. Busy in mounting more cannon. All quiet during the night.

21st. The Point Levi battery still continues firing shot and shells, and has been replied to during the whole of the day, by the gunners in the lower town, who have directed the eight pieces of cannon mounted on Mr. Grant's premises on the 16th, with great effect against the rebels on the opposite bank. The night passed in silence.

22nd. This day the rebels opened another battery upon the town from the opposite bank of the river St. Charles, upon which they have mounted two heavy guns and a howitzer. Their object in erecting this work, at which they have been engaged for several days past, is evidently to burn the town and destroy the shipping, as they have fired red-hot balls from that quarter likewise, but they have done us little injury beyond intercepting our supplies and burning the miserable remains of the suburbs, which still afforded a scanty allowance of fuel.

We understand that a large part of their army has left St. John's, probably to reinforce their comrades here. After firing several shots from the guns bearing

on the St. Charles, during the day, and mounting more cannon, the garrison were ordered under arms lest another assault should be attempted. Extremely dark at night.

23d. The enemy attempted to annoy us by throwing in a few shells from a battery lately erected on the heights opposite Port St. Louis; but they were soon silenced by a superior fire from our artillery, which has exceedingly damaged this, as well as every other they have erected.

* * * * *

MAY 3RD.

About ten at night a fire-ship attempted to run into the Cul de Sac, where the greatest part of our vessels is a present laid up in ordinary for the winter. She dropped down at ebb-tide, with the expectation of doing a great deal of injury; but the scheme proved abortive, for our batteries opened upon her when she came to leeward of the shipping; and the incendiaries on board having deserted her through fear of the flying shot from the town, she was run aground and burnt to the water's edge, without at all answering the purpose intended. It is generally supposed that the insurgents would have attempted a general assault during the confusion naturally ensuing from the burning of the ships and the lower town contiguous.

On the 6th of May the Surprise frigate, Isis, and sloop Martin, came into the Basin. Captain Douglas of the Isis, which sailed from Portland on the 11th of March, with succours on board for this town, made the island of St. Peter on the 11th of April, and from thence with the greatest difficulty and exertion made his way through large fields of ice, which for fifty or sixty leagues were of such thickness and consistency, that the ship could only be forced onwards by carrying a heavy press of sail. After clearing the Gulf he made the inhospitable island Anticosti, (an ill-wooded and barren spot, 40 leagues in extent, from N. E. to S. W. without a good harbour, granted to the Sieur Joliet by

the French, on his return from the discovery of the Mississippi) and entering the river, was joined near Isle aux Coudres by the two other vessels which sailed from Plymouth on the 20th of March. As soon as the detachment of the 29th regiment on board with a party of marines had landed; they were joined by the garrison; and the Commander-in-chief, wisely availing himself of the impression which the arrival of the ships of war had made on the insurgents, marched out to engage them, with a strong party, from the Gates of St. Louis and St. John. The enemy were found busied in making preparations for a rapid retreat, and after exchanging a few shots, fled in the utmost confusion. The alarm being given, the plains, as well as the adjacent wood, were soon completely cleared of the marauders. Several stragglers were made prisoners, and the dastardly villains, after in vain attempting to rally and charge our troops, scampered off, having abandoned fifteen pieces of cannon, with all their military stores, petards, scaling ladders, and baggage. The parties on each side of the river were prevented from joining in their flight towards Montreal by two armed vessels, sent by Captain Douglas as far as the Rapids, in the hope of annoying them in their retreat, which was so precipitate, that most of their cannon were left ready loaded, and their ammunition, provisions, intrenching tools, and even muskets, in many cases abandoned. An armed schooner, carrying ten guns, 3 and 6-pounders, was taken by the Surprise and Martin, her crew escaping to the woods; and the Gaspée schooner, which had been sunk by the rebels, was weighed up, and recovered without much damage.

Further reinforcements arrived from Halifax on the 8th of May, consisting of 47th regiment, in three transports, convoyed by His Majesty's ship Niger, which were soon followed by other from England. Captain Forster, with a detachment consisting of two companies of the 8th regiment, some Canadians, and a party of 500 Indians, who had pursued the rebels, came up with them at the Cedars, (the 3d Rapid or fall, Coteau du Lac being the 4th,) a spot beyond Lac St. Louis, where there are cascades at the upper end

of Isle Perrot, separating that Lake from the Lac des deux Montagnes. Two pieces of cannon and 390 prisoners were surrendered in this post at discretion: and about the same time a party of 120 insurgents, passing from the island of Montreal to Kinchin, were defeated by Messrs. Lorimer and Montigny. General Carleton, on receiving his reinforcements, pushed forward with all expedition, after ordering the troops to rendezvous at Three Rivers (25 leagues from Quebec, formerly a French military post for trade.) On the 8th of June the rebels attempted a bold stroke against the troops at Three Rivers, having crossed to the number of nearly 2,000 men, in 50 boats, from Sorel, and landed at a place called the Point du Lai, before day-break, out of the range of the armed vessels at anchor above the town. They were, however, speedily repulsed in an attack on the 62d regiment, and made a quick retreat up the river through the woods, finding that General Nesbit had formed in their rear with a large body of troops from the transports, and that General Fraser was too strongly posted to be driven from the town by their endeavors alone. Those two officers then pursued and attempted to seize their boats, and cut off the retreat of the insurgents from the swamps in which they had taken refuge, but they had fled with such precipitation, that only two boats and about 200 prisoners were taken, through the exertions of the sloop Martin and the armed vessels which sailed up the River du Loup. Among those who surrendered were Major-General Thompson, and Irwin, the second in command. The rebels continued their flight, pursued by the troops to Longeuil, (four leagues from Chambly,) and from thence by La Prairie to St. John's. On the night of the 18th, the head of General Burgoyne's column took possession of the redoubts of St. John, when they found all the buildings in flames, and all the craft and large boats that could not be dragged up the Chambly Rapids burnt by their retreating foes. Twenty-two pieces of cannon are also said to have been abandoned and hid in the woods. On the 11th and 13th of October, General Carleton put the finishing stroke to the expulsion of the invaders, by defeating

their fleet on Lake Champlain, in two actions, near Valicour Isle and Crown Point; only three vessels escaping out of fifteen; two of which, with General Waterburg, the second in command, were taken, and ten others burnt and destroyed. Arnold immediately set fire to the buildings of Crown Point, and after blowing up his flag-ship, escaped to Ticonderoga.

The prodigies of labor said to have been effected since the rebels were driven out of Canada, in creating and equipping a fleet of above thirty armed vessels, together with the transporting over land, and dragging up the two Rapids of St. Terese and St. John thirty long boats, above four hundred batteaux, and other flat-bottomed vessels, are almost incredible. The flotilla was also manned by a large body of prime seamen, two hundred of whom engaged from transports to serve on board during the expedition. With all these advantages, it is not to be wondered at that nearly the whole of the rebel fleet met destruction.

LT.-COLONEL MacLEANS LETTER

¶ Letter from Col. MacLean, commanding the Royal Highland Emigrants, to Mr. John Coffin, a civilian volunteer in the Pres-de-Ville barricade.

¶ From the letter of Lt.-Col. W. F. Coffin, Ottawa, read before the L. and H. Soc., 18 Dec. 1878, and reproduced from the Society's Transactions. No. 10. New Series.

QUEBEC, 28 July, 1776.

SIR,—As I am, in a few days, going to England with despatches from the Commander-in-Chief, I should be glad to know if I could be of any service to you. Power to do you any material service I have none; but your conduct during the siege of Quebec, last winter and spring, makes it a duty on my part to give you my testimony and appreciation of every part of your conduct.

Truth must always have some weight with His Majesty and his Ministers, who, I am certain, wish to reward deserving men like you. To your resolution and watchfulness on the morning of Dec. 31st, 1775, in keeping the guard at the Pres-de-Ville under arms, waiting for the attack which you expected; the great coolness with which you allowed the rebels to approach; the spirit which your example kept up among the men, and the very critical instant in which you directed Capt. Barnsfare's fire against Montgomery and his troops,—to those circumstances alone do I ascribe the repulsing the rebels from that important post, where, with their leader, they lost all heart.

The resolutions you entered into, and the arrangements you made to maintain that post, when told you were to be attacked from another quarter, were worthy

of a good subject, and would have done honor to an experienced officer. I thought it incumbent upon me to leave with you this honorable testimony of your services, as matters that were well known to myself in particular; and I should be happy, at any time, to have it in my power to be useful to you, and I do assure you that I am, with truth and regard, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

ALLAN MacLEAN.

“Mr. Coffin”

This letter is endorsed:—

From Col. Allan MacLean, 84th Regt., commanding the garrison at the siege of Quebec, 1775-76, to John Coffin, Esq.

COL. DANIEL CLAUS MEMORANDA

CANADIAN ARCHIVES, Series Q, Volume 13, Page 48—
Memorandum of the Rebel Invasion of Canada in 1775

“In the beginning of May, 75, Col. Allen took Tiyondarogon Garrison by surprize after mid-night, and immediately prepared crossing Lake Champlain in Batteaux in Quest of the Kings Vessel, and finding she had got to St. Johns proceeded with abt. 150 Men to that place garrison'd by a Serjeants party and landed out of sight of the place, his party consisting mostly of the Inhabitants about Lake Champlain, that had a daily Intercourse with the people at St. Johns, they gradually entered the place as it were accidentally without being suspected (the taking of Tiyondarogo or other Disturbances abt. Boston & the colonies not being known or heard of there;) till they took an opportunity of surrounding the chief part of the Garrison without their Barracks, then securing the rest & their Arms within, and seized the King's Sloop layng at the Wharff. One of the Soldiers, however made his escape to Montreal and carried the News to Lt.-Col. Templer of 26. Regt. who sent off a party with a field piece to St. Johns, and would have surprized the Rebels and taken them prisonrs. had not one Benton a Mercht of Montreal got to St. Johns before the party and apprized them of it and they were not out of Canon Shot when the troops arrived at St. Johns being luckily favored with a fair wind to carry them over the Lake to Tiyondarogon. This Expedition to St. Johns happened abt. the middle of May. The Rebels then in the course of June sent Reinforcements, and Provision & Ammunition to Tiyondarogo, and having intercepted the Returns of the few Troops left in Canada, and be-

ing in Possession of all the Vessels & Crafts in Lake Champlain set their Invasion of Canada on Foot, constructing Batteaux & making other preparations.

On the 1st of June I left my House on the Mohawk River to proceed to Canada by way of Oswego (:a great round abt. the communication by Lakes George & Champlain being cut off by the Rebels:) & at the same time assisting Col. Johnston to assemble the six nation Indians and apprize them of the Rebels proceedings; arrived abt. the middle of July at Aughquisasne or St. Regis an Iroquois Town on the River St. Lawrence, and summoned those Indians to a Congress at Caghnawagey alias Sault St. Louis the Fire or Council place of the Indian Nations in Canada, when I arrived the 17th July, Col. Johnson brought some of the Six Nations with him, and proceeded immediately to Montreal. I remained opposite Caghnawagey to meet and confer with those nations, upon the then situation of Affairs, and they being summoned they immediately attended, and expressed their great satisfaction of seeing me, then related to me all that had happened since the affair at St. Johns in May and what consternation and Alarm the Rebels occasioned in Canada, and the fear'd Defection of the Canadians on Acct. of the defenceless state of the country. That the Governor sent for them and desired as their assistance to have a look out & watch the motions of the Rebels who were expected to pay another Visit soon in Canada. They replied that this being an Affair of Moment & a Surprize to them, they must first consult upon it. being strangers to the Nature of the Dispute between the King and his Children the Colonists and in short were at a Loss how to act, that at our taking of Canada in 1760. they were desired and treated with to consider the Kings english subjects as their friends & Brothers for the future forgetting all former Hatred agst them, which they then promised and hitherto fulfilled. Now they are desired to act agst them. when the Inhabitants of the Country who had more reason to do so were so backward & defected, a thing they could not so easy determine upon. At which they said the Governor seemed to be displeased & angry acquainting them

that in case of their persisting in their Denial they must expect having their Lands taken from them and be deprived of other privileges they enjoyed. They answered that if their Lives were at stake, they could not rashly & inconsiderately enter into a War the nature of which they were unacquainted with that they considered themselves independent & free agents in that Respect, and could say no more abt it, & so the Meeting broke up.

They therefore repeated agn they were very happy at my arrival, and begd & entreated me to give them a full acct of this extraordinary & unexpected Dispute—Accordingly I begun with the original settling of the Colonies Governments care Indulgence & protection of them, at an immense Expense to the British Nation, some of which instances they themselves were sensible of, vgt. their protection from becoming French subjects in the Beginning of the late War, and the consequent Conquest of Canada by the British Arms only wch secured to them peace and Tranquility after many years War & Troubles. I then recounted to them the Colonists particularly ye New Englandrs most ungratefull Returns for these Favours & Blessings from the time of the Stamp Act to the destroying of ye Tea at Boston. The necessity of Government sending an Armament to enforce the Laws of the Kingdom, the New Englandrs insulting the Troops, and becoming the Aggressors at Lexington, their unwarrantable & rebellious Invasion of Canada a Country not in the least concerned in the Dispute; their being then in possession of the Territory abt Lake Champlain wch his Majesty allotted them for Hunting & fishing the Danger of their losing those Means of their Subsistance in Case the Rebels should get footing there; Their ill usage of the Indians in general & stripping them of all their Lands if not guarded against by the Crown; the striking example of their own people living among the Colonists some of whom they made slaves & servants of & got their Lands from them in a fraudulent manner, which would be the case with all Indians should they become the Rulers of the Continent of America, with several other touching arguments on

the subject. With which they were so struck and roused that immediately they determined of attacking & laying waste the New England Frontiers. I advised them to declare first their Sentiments to Sir Guy Carleton at the public meeting to be held at Montreal in a few days, and that I was of opinion they ought first to warn the New Englandrs off their Territory at Crownpoint & Tiyondarogon, and if they refused to acquaint them with their Resolutions.

Accordingly in the Beginning of August a Congress of upwards of 1500 Indians including abt 600 Warriors took place at Montreal, when the Indians in public Council made the above offers & proposals to Sir Guy Carleton. who in his answer thanks them for their good Will, but did not approve at all of the scheme. That all he wanted and desired of them was to keep a party of 40 or 50 of their young Men at St. Johns to have a Lookout from that Garrison & watch the Motions of the Rebels at Crownpoint, but they were not to go beyond the Line of the Province of Quebec. After this Meeting Sir Guy Carleton went to Quebec wch was towards the middle of August. The Indians were something disgusted at their offer being rejected, however they kept such a party of abt 50 of their Warriors at St. Johns, who were attended by two Indian Officers, made several Discoveries, killed one Capt. Baker & wounded some of his party, in the Capt's side pockets were found his journal & other papers relative to his Discoveries abt St. Johns & Chamblee.

About the Beginning of Sepr a Relief of Indians was sent to St. Johns and before the relieved party came away, the News was brought that the Rebel Army was in Sight, upon wch Majr Preston ordered the Indian Officer with all the Indians to march out of the Fort and meet the Rebels without any other White Man, accordingly they came up with the Rebels abt $1\frac{1}{2}$ from the Fort on the West shore who were landing & partly landed, the Indians attacked them with all the Advantage they could the Rebels being abt 10 to 1. Indns made them give way at two diff't. times and at last obliged them to retreat to the Isle aux Noix .15 miles

from St. Johns. The Indians had 8 killed & some wounded, and the Rebels twas thought upwards a hundred they carrying off their Dead in their boats the works at St. Johns on the side where the Rebe's landed not being finished they must have soon carried the place and Montreal & Quebec being unguarded & open must have made an easy conquest.

General Schuyler who must have commanded that Expedition fell sick after the Repulse and returned home when the command devolved on Genl. Montgomery, who after this Defeat sent very threatening messages to Caghnawagey (the nearest Indian Town to his Army & no River to cross from where he was to attack their Town:) acquainting them with his Displeasure at their late enemical Behaviour at St. Johns against him; their being the most numerous Nation in the Attack and desiring their sending Deputies to him at the Isle aux Noix immediately otherwise they would march against their Town burn it & destroy their families. The Caghnawagey Indns were much alarmed at these messages seeing themselves exposed to the Resentment of the Rebels and no appearance of protection from Government and the disaffected Behaviour of the Canadians, and being left in the lurch by the Troops, when they attacked the Rebels at their Landing had no Resource or Means left to extricate themselves from obeying the summons & saw themselves obliged to send Deputies with great Dread & Fear of ill Treatment. However on their arrival at ye Isle aux Noix they were well reced by Mr. Montgomery, who upbraided them at the same time for interfering in a Dispute they had no Business with and hoped they would not do so for the future, that as he did want the Assistance of any Indians & it was to be supposed so powerful a prince as the King of England did not want the help of Savages. In the mean while he kept these Deputies of the Caghnawageys by Way of Hostages until their People were removed from St. Johns making them a present of 1000 Dollars then proceeded with his Army to invest St. Johns a second time which was about the 20th of September and succeeded, however the Garrison had time to prepare themselves since the

first Attempt, and he was obliged to besiege it regularly, after this the Caghnawagey Inds were stigmatize as Traitors, altho they repeatedly offered to join any Body of Troops or Canadians that should be sent to raise the Siege at St. Johns and being one day informed of such a party to be sent, they in a Body went to meet them at la prairie but finding a false Report they returned home.

About the latter end of Sept. Col. Allen Attempted with abt 200 Men to take Montreal by a Coup de Main, but being met by a Body of Troops & Canadians they were dispersed, some killed & wounded Allen was pursued by two young Indn Officers a few Rangers and Indians and taken prisn with a party of his best Men, After this Affair the Canadians came to Montreal under an appearance to lend their services, they were armed, accoutred &c. and ordered to be ready when called upon but many of them disappeared. Towards the middle of October the Rebels having exhausted their Ammunition & provisions, planned the Taking of Chamblee Garrison, well stockd with these Articles. Its to be remarked that after St. Johns was invested that post could be of no service to the former, but would have added great Strength to our Troops at the Sorell or Montreal. Accordingly the Rebels tempted with so valuable Acquisition and at so little Risque, the place being defenceless agst Artillery brought two light pieces of Iron Canon thro the woods out of reach of St. Johns fort and soon made a Breach into the thin Walls of Chamblee so that Mgr Stopford who commanded, saw himself obliged to surrender with his Garrison where the Rebels found upwards 100 Barrls of Powder & Shot in proportn & 200 Barls of Provisns by which means they were enabled to take St. Johns. Otherways by their own Confession must have quitted Canada, having but a few Rounds of Ammunition & very little provn left. The Rebels were fortunate enough at the Beginning of the Siege to take a parcell of Provisions & Cloths intended to be thrown into St. Johns for the Troops, wch Articles they much wanted at that season. The latter end of October Sir Guy Carleton made an attempt to relieve the Garrison at

St. Johns and endeavoured to cross at Longeuil with a Body of Canadians & Indians but the former seemingly could not be depended upon, and the latter thereby drew the Rebels upon them only lost their chief Warrior & others wounded & taken, the effort proved abortive and St. Johns was obliged to surrender for want of succour & provision the beginning of Novr and soon after Montreal. Its to be observed that after the Rebels Repulse from St. Johns by the Indians Montreal & Quebec were put in as good a State of Defence as the Time would permit; Several armed Shipping arrived at the latter & Capt. Hamilton in the Lizard the 9th Novr. The 11 of Novr I embarked for Europe.

DANL. CLAUS,
late Agt. for Indn. Affrs,
Provce Quebec.

Endorsed:—Memorandums of the
Rebel Invasion of Canada
in 1775.

By Colo Claus.

HALSTED-MERCIER PAPERS

No. 1. Agreement dated 16 January 1775 between Joseph Harnois and John Halsted for the construction of a frame for a store. *Transcribed in full.*

2. Petition of John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier per attorney Deschenaux to the Governor Sir Frederick Haldimand, dated 4th August, 1784, asking for the return of their property and compensation for the frame of the store valued at £150, and five years rent £575. *Transcribed in full.*

3. Petition dated 25 August 1784, of Halsted et al, complaining their former one was not answered, and that it was contrary to the spirit and justice of the British constitution and Government to appropriate the property of individuals, &c., reiterates previous demands.

4. September 9th, 1784—Joseph Harnois declaration of building the frame for the store in 1775, relates that the arrival of the Americans stopped the work of construction, and that the Government had used the timber for batteries behind the Hotel Dieu, St. John's and St. Louis Gates.

5. March 5, 1789—Agent Deschenaux again petitions Government re the Halsted-Mercier property.

6. May 20, 1791—Agent Deschenaux again petitions Government, says the property had been seized by Madame Lacroix for rente foncier which he had subsequently paid—115 livres 5 sols arrears.

7. May 21, 1795—Agent Deschenaux again petitions Government complaining that no replies had been made to any of the petitions.

8. August 1st. 1795—Burns and Woolsey replace Deschenaux as agent and write Government enclosing their

powers of attorney, and saying that the Governor had verbally referred them to the Clerk of Executive Council, who had told them verbally that on 8 June, 1791, the claim had been referred to a Committee of five Councillors to enquire into its legality. He would not answer in writing, but said no progress had been made seeing that three of the Committee were dead and the others incompetent, and that they might get redress later on when the treaty between Britain and the United States on the subject of such claims had been made. But Government had no power to grant compensation to inhabitants of the United States.

9. June 3, 1797 Halsted writes United States Secretary of State, Colonel Pickering invoking his Government's aid. *Transcribed in full.*

10. June 23, 1797 Pickering to Halsted promising assistance. *Transcribed in full.*

11. August 17, 1797. Herman Witsius Ryland to Halsted saying that as they were U.S. citizens, Government is disposed to entertain their petition, put them in possession of their property, and make compensation for its use from time of the presenting of their first petition 1784—would require settlement by arbitration but would grant nothing for the timber of frame work used by the Military authorities, and due regard would have to be given to the Government's improvements of the property.

12. August 12, 1797. Halsted to Commissary General Craigie, referring to Ryland's letter, suggesting that Government take the property at a valuation, and compensate them for the time it was used by Government since the war, foregoing all other claims or demands.

13. August 19, 1797. Craigie to Halsted—says he will put him in possession of property without delay and asks his proposals for compensation and reiterates Ryland's letter.

14. August 20, 1797. Halsted to Ryland—foregoing the claims for rent during the war, and for the timber used, although he said they were founded on justice

and equity, and were more than equivalent to the Government improvement. Asks for reply.

15. August 21, 1797. Halsted to Craigie—says that the property cost £1200 but will sell to Government for £1000, with 8% interest for use of property since 1783, foregoing claims for rent during the war and value of timber of the frame.

16. 23 August, 1797. Craigie to Halsted—has no instructions to buy the property, but will arrange compensation for use of it. He will name a person and Halsted and the attorney another to value the wharf and lot and the Government store.

17. 23 August. Halsted to Craigie—gave his sentiments in letter of 21st, and as Government has acknowledged his title to wharf and lot by directing they would be put in possession. He considers that possession to include the store in its present state. All that rests is to settle compensation for its use since 1783, and he is ready to join in naming a valuator and if Government will purchase wharf he will join in naming valuers for it.

18. August 31. Ryland to Halsted, refers him to his former letter.

19. August 31. Report of valuers—Robert Lester, John Purss and T. Baillarge, père, valuing lot and wharf at £572, store if now repaired worth £125, if taken down for removal worth £50.

20. Sept. 4. Attornies to Craigie. Ask for names of valuers. If they meet their ideas, no further steps need be taken. If not, Mr. Craigie to appoint a man, they one, and if these don't agree, they appoint a third to arrange the estimate.

21. Sept. 5, 1797. Craigie to Halsted, enclosing copy of Report of valuers.

22. Sept. 6. Burns and Woolsey to Craigie. State that the declarations place the estimate too much below the original cost, £1200, but to adjust matters propose compensation for use of property, to be estimated at 8% on £800, from which to deduct the value of a provision store. If that not satisfactory let a valu-

ator be named and they would also name one, and these name a third, so that agreement may be arrived at as to compensation for use of the property.

23. Oct. 4. Arbitration Bond. *Transcribed at length.*

24. Oct. 4. Report of the Commission. *Transcribed at length.*

25. Oct. 5. Halsted to Craigie. Objects to the finding of the Commissioners. For instead of deducting the present value of building, £125, they have deducted the first cost thereof from the compensation allowed for the use of wharf and property. Complains he was not informed of the meeting of Commissioners at which witnesses were examined and he not present. Requests Commissioners to reconsider their decision.

No. 1.

AGREEMENT *between Joseph Harnois and John Halsted for a Frame of a Store.*

Articles of agreement made, concluded and fully agreed upon this Sixteenth day of January, 1775. Between John Halsted of the City of Quebec, of the one part, and Joseph Harnois, junr. of the said city, House carpenter, of the other part, vizt:—

“The said Joseph Harnois, for the consideration hereafter mentioned, covenants, promises and agrees to and with the said John Halsted, that he, the said Joseph Harnois, will furnish and provide at his own expense, a sufficient quantity of proper Timber, and will Frame, erect and put up, or cause so to be done, on or before the first day of August next, at Cape Diamond or Pretville, a frame of a storehouse of one hundred and twenty-eight feet long and forty feet broad, three stories high. The height of the first story to be eight feet two inches, the second story seven feet nine inches high and the third story seven feet four inches high from floor to floor. The timber to be of the following dimensions, vizt:—The Cellar or first beams to be of Cedar or Hemlock spruce ten inches at

smallest end, the sills ten inches square. Fourteen pair of posts twelve inches square, and thirteen pair of posts ten inches square, three tier or rows of Beams ten by twelve inches square, first Collar Beams eight by ten inches square, second Collar Beams six by eight inches square, the Raughters $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches, at one end, and five by six inches at the other end, a plate to be fram'd on the Upper Beams ten inches square on which the feet of the Raughters is to be fixed, the Posts, Beams and Raughters five feet from Center to Center, and four doors and eight dormant windows in the roof if required, and middle partitions framed throughout the three storys, for the first story the sill to be eight inches square, the plate six inches and the posts or studs six inches square, for the other two storys the Sils, Plates and Posts or Studs to be six inches square. The above to be all French measure. The Frame to be sufficiently Braced and Fram'd agreeable to a plan sign'd by the said Joseph Harnois and John Halsted, subject to be examined and approv'd by proper workmen.

And the said John Halsted, for and in consideration of the above Frame to be erected and put up as aforesaid, promises and agrees to pay, or cause to be paid, to the said Joseph Harnois, the sum of two thousand eight hundred livres or shillings of the Province of Quebec, in manner following, vizt:—Six hundred and fifty livres at signing the above agreement. Nine hundred livres on the timbers being brought to Quebec. Five hundred livres at times which the Timber is Framing and the remaining six hundred and fifty livres as soon as the Frame shall be put up and finished. And for the true performance of all and every the covenants and agreements aforesaid, each of the said parties bindeth himself to the other in the penal sum of Fifty pounds, lawful money of the Province aforesaid, and lastly in case any disputes shall arise between the parties to this agreement, the same to be left to the determination of two Intelligent Persons to be chosen by the Parties whose award shall be final.

In witness whereof the Parties have hereunto set

their hands and seals to these presents, the day and year first above written.

In the presence of

MURDOCK STUART,
GEORGE MUNROE.

JOSEPH HARNOIS,
JOHN HALSTED.

Received, Quebec, 16 January, 1775, of John Halsted, six hundred and fifty livres on the annexed agreement.

JOSEPH HARNOIS.

Received, Quebec, 24 May, 1775, of John Halsted, nine hundred and twelve livres on the annex'd agreement.

/ JOSEPH HARNOIS.

(Contract was £140.)

No. 2.

COPIE de la Requete de M. John Halsted, le 4 Aout, 1784.

To His Excellency Frederic Haldimand, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Province of Quebec, etc., etc., etc.

The Memorial of John Halsted Humbly sheweth,

That your memorialist and M. John Dyer Mercier, late of Quebec, Merchant, are joint Proprietors of a lot of ground at Cape Diamond, of two hundred and thirty French feet in front on the River, on which lot they had constructed a wharf of one hundred and thirty feet in front and laid the foundation of a store and had the frame for said store completed and in readiness to set up on said wharf, of one hundred and twenty eight feet in length and forty feet in breadth and three stories high, in the fall of the year 1775. That in the

fall or winter of that year His Excellency General Carleton, then Governor of this Province, Caused the frame above mentioned to be brought into the Garrison and applied to the use of Government.

That since the year 1779 the said wharf has, by your Excellency's direction, been occupied for, and used for the service of Government.

Your Memorialist therefore having at present occasion to occupy the said wharf, doth hereby humbly pray your Excellency may be pleased to order that they may have immediate possession thereof and also that he be paid the amount underneath, being the value of the Frame before mentioned and a moderate rent for the wharf since occupied by Government, and your Memorialist shall ever pray, etc., etc.

Signed, JOHN HALSTED.

Quebec, 4th August, 1786.

The Frame cost the proprietors the sum of.....	£150
Rent of the wharf for 5 years, at £115 per annum..	£575
	£725

Signed, JOHN HALSTED.

Trouve Copie Veritable,
L. DESCHENAUX.

No. 9.

To the Honble. the Secy. of State of the United States.

PHILADELPHIA, June 3, 1797.

SIR,

Having been advised by several gentlemen whom I had consulted, that the claim of Mr. John D. Mercier, of New York, and myself, against the British Government for property used and occupied by them since the year

1779 in Canada, would with the greatest propriety and effect be made thro' the Department of State. I take the liberty of subjoining the following statement of facts for your consideration.

In the year 1774 Mr. Mercier and self purchased a lot of land of 230 feet front on the River St. Lawrence at Quebec, and in 1775, at a very considerable expense, finished a wharf of 130 feet and laid the foundation and completely finished a frame of a store 128 feet in length by 40 feet in breadth and three stories high, a considerable part of the timber of which frame I am well informed was made use of for the defence of the garrison during the siege of 1775 and 1776.

In the year 1776, Mr. Mercier and self left that country and in 1784 I went to Quebec to seek after our property, and was informed that in the year 1779, Government had taken possession of the wharf and had erected a store on the foundation we had made and a guardhouse on our land adjoining. I informed Genl. Haldimand by memorials of the 4th and 25 August of said year that the wharf occupied by Government was the property of Mr. John D. Mercier and myself, to which an authentic copy of our title deed was annexed, and prayed to be put in possession of the same, or if it should be wanted for the use of Government, he would pay me for the same at a just and equitable valuation, like memorials were delivered by our attorney, Louis Deschenaux, Esq., on the 5th March, 1789, and 20th May, 1791, to Lord Dorchester, on receipt of the last of which his Lordship appointed five Gentn. of the Council to examine and report on our claim, but no report being made, our said attorney again addressed his Lordship on the 21st May, 1795, respecting our claim, to which his Lordship replied he would find an answer in the Books of the Council, on applying to the Clerk of the Council, our attorney was informed that on the 8th June, 1791, our claim was referred to five members of the Council, to inquire into the legality of it, and that no progress was yet done in the business, that three of them are since dead, and the other two incompetent to report on our claim.

Being thus circumstanced, and our property still withheld by the British Government, although we are ready to produce our title deeds, we are induced to make this communication to you, and submit it to your better judgment, whether application should be made in our behalf immediately to the Governor of Canada, or mediately thro' the Minister Plenipotentiary of his Britannic Majesty resident in this city.

It may not be improper or useless to add that I am a native of New Jersey and Mr. Mercier a native of New York, and that we are both citizens of the United States. We possess the fullest confidence, Sir, in your willingness, both in your public and private character, to contribute, by the weight of your name and application, towards obtaining for us full compensation for the use and occupation of our property, and we trust that there will be a disposition in the British Government not only so to compensate us for what is past, but to restore us to the possession and enjoyment of it for the future, or, if still wanted for the use of their Government, to pay for it at an equitable valuation.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. HALSTED.

COLONEL PICKERING,

Secretary of State.

No. 10.

JUNE 23, 1797.

From Timothy Pickering, Esq., Secy. of State of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

PHILADELPHIA, June 23, 1797.

SIR,

In the first place I handed to Mr. Liston, the British Minister, the letter you wrote me on the 3rd instant, with the memorial of Mr. Deschenaux to Lord Dor-

chester, and the letter of Burns and Woolsey to your partner, Mr. Mercier, relative to your claim to certain real property at Quebec. These originals Mr. Liston having read, returned to me, with a request to be furnished with copies. This was done, and to-day I have received his answer, by which I see that he has, in the most friendly and interesting manner, recommended your claim to the attention of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Canada.

His letter to Governor Prescott I supposed you would wish to present yourselves, or by your agent, and therefore I requested Mr. Liston to commit it to my care. It is now inclosed, together with the memorial of M. Deschenaux and the letter of Burns and, Woolsey which I thought you would wish to have returned. I hope your present attempt to recover your property and just dues will prove successful, and am

Very respectfully, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

John Halsted, Esq.
Perth Amboy.

No. 24.

BOND OF ARBITRATION.

Province of Lower Canada } Know all men by these presents, that
We, John Halsted, of Perth Amboy, in the State of New Jersey, merchant, and William Burns and John William Woolsey, of the City of Quebec, Auctioneers and Brokers, Attornies to and for John Dyer Mercier, of Long Island, in the State of New York, merchant. are held and firmly bound unto John Craigie, Esq, His Majesty's Commissary and Store Keeper General for the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, in One Thousand pounds current money of the Province of Lower Canada, to be paid to the said John Craigie or his certain Attorney his Executors, Administrators or Assigns, for which payment well and truly to be made. We bind ourselves and each of us by himself, for and in the whole, our and every one of our Heirs, Executors, Curators and

Administrators and every of them firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals, dated the second day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, and in the thirty seventh year of His Majesty's Reign.

Whereas His present Majesty did, on or about the tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, take possession of a certain lot of ground situate lying and being in the Lower Town of the City of Quebec, and according to the Deed of Concession from Magdelaine Domp-tail, the widow of Hubert LaCroix, to the said John Dyer Mercier and John Halsted, bearing date the tenth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, bounded and abutted as follows; that is to say, in front by the River Saint Lawrence, in the rear by the summit of the Cape, on the North East by land, the property of Laurent Tesson; and on the South West by lands not conceded, with the wharf thereon erected, then belonging to and being the property of the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier, and hath possessed, occupied and used the same from thence continually until the thirtieth day of September now last past, and whereas, His said Majesty hath built and erected upon the said lot of ground and wharf aforesaid, a store, lately used as a Provision store, which store is now standing upon the said lot of ground and wharf aforesaid, together with other improvements also made thereon by His Majesty, and whereas His Excellency, Robert Prescott, Esquire. Captain General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the said Province of Lower Canada, on behalf of His Majesty and the said John Halsted for himself and the said William Burns and John William Woolsey, as attornies to and for the said John Dyer Mercier, have agreed to refer to the award, judgment and determination of John Blackwood, Esquire, William Lindsay, Junior, Esquire, and David Munroe, Esquire, Arbitrators indifferently chosen by and between the said John Craigie, on behalf of His Majesty, and the said John Halsted for himself, and the said William Burns and John William Woolsey as attornies to and for the said John Dyer Mercier, to estimate and determine what compensation ought

reasonably to be allowed by His Majesty to the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier, for the use and occupation of the said lot of ground and wharf, from the fourth day of August, which was in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, until the thirtieth day of September, in the present year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, and to determine also the value of the said store and improvements aforesaid, so as aforesaid made on the said lot of ground and wharf aforesaid, by His said Majesty, and to determine also how much of the said compensation (after deducting therefrom the value of the said store and of the improvements aforesaid, so as aforesaid made on the said lot of ground and wharf aforesaid, by His said Majesty shall, by His said Majesty be paid to the said John Dyer Mercier and John Halsted in full of all claims and demands whatsoever for the aforesaid use and occupation of the said lot of ground and wharf by His said Majesty, from the said tenth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, until the said thirtieth day of September now last past. Now, therefore, the condition of this obligation is such that if the said John Halsted and William Burns and John William Woolsey, as attornies to and for the said John Dyer Mercier and the said John Dyer Mercier and every of them their and every of their Executors, Curators and Administrators for their parts and behalf, shall and do in and by all things well and truly stand to, observe, perform, fulfill and keep the award, arbitration, judgment, final end and determination, which the said John Blackwood, William Lindsay, junior, and David Munro, arbitrators as aforesaid, or any two of them, shall make and give up in writing under their or any two of their hands and seals, on or before the first day of November next of and concerning the Premises, then this obligation to be void or else to remain in full force and virtue.

Sealed and delivered

in presence of

G. GERMAINE S. FRANCKLIN

J. T. TASCHEREAU

JOHN HALSTEAD

WM. BURNS

J. WM. WOOLSEY

No. 25.

AWARD OF THE ARBITRATION.

We, the undersigned arbitrators, indifferently chosen by and between John Craigie, Esquire, on behalf of His Majesty, on the one part, and John Halsted, for himself, and William Burns and John William Woolsey, as attornies to and for and on behalf of John Dyer Mercier on the other part, to estimate and determine what compensation ought reasonably to be allowed by His Majesty to the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier, for the use and occupation of a certain lot of ground and wharf, situated in the Lower Town of Quebec, on which a store house has been erected and possessed, and other improvements made, by Government, from the fourth day of August, one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, until the thirtieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven; and to determine also the value of said store and improvements so erected and made, and also how much of the said compensation after deducting therefrom the value of the said store and improvements, shall be paid by His Majesty to the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier in full of all claims and demands whatsoever, for the use and occupation of the said lot of ground and wharf from the tenth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, until the said thirtieth day of September now last past, as will more fully appear by a Bond of Arbitration entered into by the aforesaid parties, bearing date the second day of October instant, and hereunto annexed.

Having carefully examined and considered the proposed documents laid before us by the respective parties and having also enquired into the condition and value of the aforesaid lot and wharf, at the time they were taken possession of for His Majesty's service—*In 1781 at which time the wharf was much decayed and depreciated by six years total neglect, having been abandoned in an unfinished state in 1775.*—and subsequent improvements made thereon, by, and at the expense of Government, we are of opinion that under all the circumstances of the case, the sum of sixty five pounds per annum

is a reasonable compensation for the use and occupation of the said lot and wharf so possessed by Government, to be reckoned and computed from the fourth day of August, one thousand seven hundred and eighty four until the thirtieth day of September one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, thirteen years and two months, making the sum of eight hundred and fifty five pounds sixteen shillings and eight pence current money of this Province, and we do estimate from the best information, that can now be obtained, that the cost of the buildings erected, and improvements and repairs made by Government on the premises in question, amounted to seven hundred and sixty seven pounds also current money; the which deducted from the aforesaid sum of eight hundred and fifty five pounds sixteen shillings and eight pence, leaves a balance of eighty eight pounds sixteen shillings and eight pence in favour of the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier.

We do, therefore, hereby award that the said John Craigie, Esquire, on behalf of His Majesty, do pay or cause to be paid, to the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier, or to their attornies, the aforesaid sum of eighty eight pounds sixteen shillings and eight pence in full of all claims and demands, whatsoever, for the aforesaid use and occupation of the said lot of ground and wharf, so possessed by His Majesty from the tenth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, until the said thirtieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, and that on receipt thereof, the said John Halsted and John Dyer Mercier, or their attornies, do discharge and forever release the said John Craigie, Esquire, in his quality aforesaid, from all and every claim or demand, whatsoever, touching or concerning the premises.

Witness our hands and seals at Quebec, this fourth day of October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven. The explanatory marginal note (in *Italics*) in the second page having been first added and approved of.

J. BLACKWOOD
WM. LINDSAY, JR.
D. MUNRO

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know, but suppose Mr. Hugh Finlay may be the gentleman who made it for his amusement.”

“The above preface is in the handwriting of Malcolm Fraser, Esq., formerly Lieutenant in the 78’ Regiment (or Fraser’s Highlanders.) The MS. is in the possession of Honble. J. M. Fraser, who kindly allowed a copy to be made for the use of the L. & H. Soc.” G. B. Faribault.

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